

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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COMMENTATORS RAP 'LINKAGE' PRINCIPLE IN ARMS TALKS

Soltan Comment

LD151710 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 15 Apr 81

[Text] Our observer Yuriy Soltan now examines the attitude of the Soviet Union and the NATO countries to nuclear disarmament. This is what he writes:

To begin with I would like to recall one of the Soviet peace proposals. The Soviet Union suggests that a further deployment of new medium-range nuclear missiles and the replacement of the existing missiles by qualitatively new kinds of weapons should be stopped in Europe. In making this proposal the Soviet Union proceeds from the assumption that military parity still exists in Europe. This is a factor that was acknowledged by the NATO leaders only recently. Simultaneously, talks should begin without delay on limiting, and, if the NATO countries are prepared for that, reducing such weapons to a considerable degree. While advocating the idea of talks, the Soviet Union puts forward no preliminary conditions and is ready to consider any reasonable proposal no matter who it comes from.

The Soviet Union's proposal for a moratorium is not the aim in itself but a means of making the talks easier. After all it is clear to any realistically-minded person that it would be more rational to reduce arms from the level already agreed upon than discuss this reduction and arm at the same time. The NATO leadership, however, demonstrates an entirely different approach to this question. It can be expressed in the following concise formula--first to counterarm, and then to negotiate.

As reports indicate, at the recent meeting of the NATO defense ministers, the American Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger waved the Soviet proposal aside by saying that his country sees the priority task in strengthening NATO's defense potential. What the minister actually implied was the realization of a plan to deploy new American medium-range missiles in Western Europe. Now this plan, if realized, will inevitably upset the military balance in Europe and will compel the Soviet Union to take retaliatory measures. Then the outcome of the talks, if they ever begin, will be most problematic.

One gets the impression that this is what Washington actually wants. It's not without reason that the White House makes its consent to the talks dependent on whether it will like the Soviet Union's behavior on the international scene or not. Now, is this a serious approach to talks? The Soviet Union does not always like the behavior of the United States, say, in El Salvador or in the Middle East. What if the Soviet Union would start linking its readiness for talks on nuclear disarmament with, say, the withdrawal of the American air and naval armada from the Persian Gulf area? This policy will lead to only one result, that is a deadlock in the talks. It is only those whose intentions are far from being peaceful that can push the Soviet peace proposal aside on various pretexts, practice delaying tactics and create unofficial obstacles in the way of the talks. The American side seems to demonstrate this particular approach to nuclear disarmament and not only in Europe. We focus more on Europe just because there are too many nuclear arms deployed in it. One need not be an experienced politician to visualize the catastrophic consequences for the world of a nuclear conflict in Europe and the Soviet proposal is aimed at preventing the danger of such a conflict.

Zorin Comment

LD191024 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Valentin Zorin commentary carried in the "Moscow Viewpoint" program]

[Text] Last week the defense secretary, Caspar Weinberger, on his visit in Bonn, threatened that the United States would stop even considering further arms control talks if the Soviet Union, as he put it, intervened in Poland. Well I won't dwell on this hysterical outcry the United States is raising over the situation in Poland. I would just like to draw your attention to a recent report from Warsaw in the Washington POST. The American reporter in the Polish capital was forced to note that the actual situation in the country was nothing like what was being pictured by the U.S. mass media: no thunder of tanks, and no crowds of people worried about the country losing its independence.

This week, writes Valentin Zorin, I would rather talk about something else and leave the question of Poland to the conscience of those who are deliberately generating tension around that country. I am struck by the arrogance it takes for officials in Washington to dictate conditions to the Soviet Union before the United States agrees to talks on controlling arms. They behave as though arms control is some kind of a present that the magnanimous Mr Weinberger may or may not give to the Soviet Union, depending on its behavior. Listening to such shortsighted individuals you would think that only the Soviet Union was interested in limiting strategic arms and preventing a nuclear war, and that the United States was invulnerable to nuclear strikes. The United States defense secretary, of all people, should know that the Soviet Union has all it takes to defend its security. The same people who feel they can dictate conditions to the Soviet Union not only recognize this country's ability to use nuclear weapons, but try to convince Americans that the Soviet Union has military superiority and therefore the taxpayers must tighten their belts further to finance greater military programs.

Now, either the Soviet Union does not have enough weapons to wage a modern war, or it has an impressive military potential. If it does not have enough weaponry, then why is the United States talking about catching up with the USSR in nuclear armaments? And if the USSR indeed has a military superiority, then why the arrogant position that mutual control and nuclear limitation is a present to the Soviet Union for good behavior? There is no logic in the position taken by Washington officials. The truth of the matter is that the USSR is not seeking military superiority over the United States and has an approximately equal potential. Therefore it is necessary to reach an agreement that recognizes the equal security of both sides.

The Soviet Union is not giving Washington any presents and does not expect any itself. We take a realistic approach to the world today, and the reality is that the United States and the Soviet Union both need to reach an agreement on limiting strategic arms. It is quite obvious that under these circumstances, to place the Soviet Union before some kind of preliminary conditions is not only totally unrealistic but does not even consider the basic interests of the United States. Over the years, while our two countries have been negotiating strategic arms limitation, shortsighted politicians in the United States have been worried only about the income of the military-industrial complex above the interests of U.S. national security. At all stages of these negotiations such politicians have tried to jam the works. Today, Washington's leaders claim that the events in Poland are hindering talks.

But before the events in Poland it was the events in Afghanistan that were used for the same ends, and before the events in Afghanistan, located thousands of miles from the United States and right on the border with the Soviet Union, other excuses were used to slow down the talks. And when there were no excuses they were simply fabricated.

A case in point was the noise over the so called Soviet brigade in Cuba. Today, in Washington, it is no longer even mentioned. But as soon as Poland and Afghanistan can no longer serve as excuses, the Soviet brigade in Cuba will be ushered up again, or something similar will be invented. Any unbiased individual can see that it is not such manufactured problems that count. It is the unwillingness of certain groups in the United States to abandon their selfish interests and take a sober look at today's reality, and their desire at any cost to hinder efforts to stop the arms race.

Those who put forward conditions for continuing talks on arms control believe they found a good excuse to justify their position, but nothing could be farther from the truth. Speaking a few days ago in Prague, President Brezhnev asked what if the Soviet Union said that before it would begin talks to settle some critical international problem, Western countries would have to change their policies on some issue that the Soviet Union and many other countries do not at all like? For instance, the United States should first withdraw its troops from one or another country or from certain military bases abroad. And it should cease supporting and sending arms to some dictatorial terrorist regime. So Washington does not like some policy of the Soviet Union--I suppose it won't be (?really) unexpected if I note that Moscow does not like many things done by Washington, said Leonid Brezhnev. But does that mean we should ask the United States to change its policies before we agree to negotiate. Of course not, because that would amount to refusing to negotiate at all, with all the consequences that would entail.

Attempts to set conditions on the Soviet Union before negotiations are not only unwise but are totally unrealistic, and the sooner Washington realizes this, the better it will be for everyone, and certainly the United States and the American people.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD191646 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0845 GMT 19 Apr 81

["International Observers Roundtable" program, with APN political observer Spartak Ivanovich Beglov; LITERATURNAYA GAZETA political observer Vladimir Borisovich Lomeyko; and commentator of the international section of All-Union Radio Gennadiy Mikhaylovich Ariyevich]

[Text] [Ariyevich] Good morning, comrades. In his report at the 26th CPSU Congress, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed that today, it is perfectly obvious that the Soviet Union and its allies are now, more than ever, the main bulwark of peace on earth. Indeed, the fraternal socialist countries present a united front and are resolving common tasks. The most important of them is the preservation and strengthening of peace on earth. Another vivid confirmation of this was provided by the 12th BCP Congress, the 16th CPCZ Congress and the 10th SED Congress--all of which have been held since the 26th congress of our party, and the last of which ended this week.

Peace Proposals Viewed

The peace program for the eighties put forward by our party's congress meets with extremely warm approval at the forums of communists of the socialist countries. Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, declared at the 10th SED Congress: We fully and totally support the peace proposals of the Soviet Union, which correspond to the interests of all the peoples.

At the same time, the 10th SED Congress contributed constructive proposals of its own for strengthening peace and security in Europe, in particular, for developing normal relations between the GDR and the FRG based on the principles of peaceful coexistence.

[Lomeyko] The wide international discussion now underway in the world shows that the Soviet peace initiatives have found support, not only in the socialist and developing countries, but also among many politicians and the public in the West. I myself had an opportunity recently to become convinced of this at an international conference in West Berlin which I attended as a representative of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation. Taking part in that conference were diplomats, scholars and journalists from 14 countries of East and West. At the center of the 3-day discussion were the peace initiatives put forward by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress. What struck me was, first, that there wasn't a single Western representative who could produce any persuasive arguments against the Soviet proposals. Most of them positively assessed the fact that, despite the deterioration in the international situation, a confident and balanced voice has been heard from Moscow, calling all countries to a dialogue--to talks on curbing the arms race. And, second: In the behavior of many of the West European representatives, one sensed constraint, and an obvious embarrassment. They recognize the need for dialogue, the importance of talks; but, in doing so, they glance expressively over their shoulders in the direction of the silent Americans. By their whole demeanor--and occasionally, in private conversation, openly--the West Europeans convey: We are in favor of talks--but, as members of NATO, we have to wait for agreement, or orders, from Washington.

In fact, the situation is that talks on all the current problems that trouble mankind could begin tomorrow. After all, Moscow's acceptance--and, more than that, an invitation to dialogue from the Soviet side is on the table: It's up to the West to respond.

U.S. Policy Viewed

[Beglov] These hopes that the West will reciprocate with constructive proposals in response to the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, coincide with the end of the first 100 days of the new American administration of Ronald Reagan. According to American traditions, 100 days is the symbolic space of time given to a new government in which to draw up a concrete program of action, both in domestic and in external affairs.

The well-known American observer, James Reston, has called it an exhibition season. What goods, then, has the Reagan administration displayed in the shop window of its policy? As far as external affairs are concerned, in the opinion of the same James Reston, the administration's line has been--I'm still quoting the American observer--noisy, provocative and unstable. Well, let us add our own comment that it is noisy in the sense of strident anti-Sovietism, and provocative in the sense of a cowboy approach to the most acute and vitally important problems of peace and disarmament. And so we obtain a curious sort of common denominator. If we take, for example, the regions of the Persian Gulf and southwest Asia, then here, too, we see very serious claims being made by American policy--the policy of the new administration, which, to put it in the words of Secretary of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs Eric Gonsalves--who, as it happens, has just been on a visit to Washington--amounts to the following: Washington's strategy of deploying naval forces, military bases and the Rapid Deployment Force in that region, and also of intensified rearming of Pakistan, is wrong from beginning to end, that is, we can say that this merchandise displayed in the shopwindow of American policy, the shopwindow of the new administration, has aroused a reaction that the new men in Washington clearly did not expect.

[Lomeyko] And then, Spartak Ivanovich, when you hear the reaction in various parts of the world to the first 100 days of American policy, Washington's allies often say, in reply to criticism of Washington's negative and completely destructive program--realizing that it is such--give Washington time. Don't rush them. Let the master of the White House and his team first get their bearings in world affairs and work out their policy. The administration needs to find its feet.

Well, the fact that many members of the U.S. Government are inexperienced in international affairs is, in itself, not in doubt--though it is not only deplorable but dangerous to the world community; but capital is being made of this. It is being deliberately exploited in order to mislead world public opinion.

[Ariyevich] What do you mean by that, Vladimir Borisovich?

[Lomeyko] What I mean is this: First, the Americans are quite openly abusing their position as leader in the Western world, and the dependency of their NATO allies and of other Western countries. They are, therefore, delaying East-West talks, on the grounds of either the pre-election situation in America--as has happened before--or of the need for the new administration to settle in: And the others, according to Washington's logic, must wait, and not thrust themselves forward with their initiatives.

[Ariyevich] And during this period of enforced stagnation in diplomacy, the militarists are not twiddling their thumbs but are hard at work.

[Lomeyko] Exactly! The mountains of arms are growing while talks remain at a standstill. That, incidentally, is the perfidious intention of those who hide behind the screen of the White House, but who are running this whole complicated production. I refer to the invisible government--those same influential financial and industrial circles in whose hands the real power is concentrated. And here we come to the crux; in view of the fact that it's not Reagan or Haig who determines the strategic line of American imperialism, but those that stand behind them, it is perhaps more accurate to say that Washington is not currently working out its policy--it was worked out long ago--but trying to foist it on its allies.

[Beglov] Washington evidently realizes that in certain areas, it is necessary first to put out feelers, and find out how far the Americans can go in putting their stake, as they are doing, on building up the arms race and on exacerbating the situation in various parts of the world.

As the Americans themselves say, policy is a sort of pie which has yet to be baked. And at the moment, before actually putting it in the oven, they have decided to see how the world will react to it. But on the other hand, of course, the dough has already been mixed and the yeast has gone in. So whatever extra filling may be added it is clear enough that, for the time being, the basis of this political pie is reliance upon extreme militarism.

[Ariyevich] It seems to me that the essence of the matter is in this contradiction in approach, in the various ingredients of this pie. The presence of the doctrine of superiority in the present U.S. administration is evident; and I think the Reagan government took power in the White House with this doctrine already prepared. And from its first steps in the 100 day honeymoon, without yet having completed that period of establishment and drafting of policy, Washington has already started trying to force this doctrine on the whole world, including our country, although it has been warned that speaking to us in the language of diktat, the language of superiority, is an empty and thankless thing. But it has become more and more clear with time that this doctrine is meeting with opposition both within the country and, especially, in various parts of the world. In other words, this doctrine has come up against the realities of today's world, which in no way fit in with the scheme drafted in Washington.

And the chief reality with which Washington does not want to reckon, but cannot do otherwise, is the might and unity of the socialist community, its extensive peace offensive, favorable opportunities for the further development of which have been opened up by the new Soviet peace proposals. Their power of attraction for peoples who wish to block the path to nuclear war is so great that this cannot be brushed aside. It is for that reason that the U.S. doctrine is coming up against growing opposition everywhere--in West Europe, in the Near East and in Latin America.

W. Europe Policies Discussed

[Lomeyko] Yes, speaking of West Europe; the events of the past week show that the feeling of confusion, dissatisfaction and sometimes annoyance, among West Europeans following the trips of Haig, U.S. secretary of state, and Weinberger, secretary of defense, has increased considerably, the American visitors have already left for their own part of the world, but the West European politicians and public cannot settle down, and are continuing broad discussion of issues of relations between the United States and West Europe.

[Beglov] Let us take a key issue, the attitude of the present administration and the West European partners of the United States toward the problem of detente. Casper Weinberger, in one of his speeches in Bonn, even went so far as to say literally the following: If the transition from cold war to detente is progress, then let me state that we cannot permit ourselves such progress any longer. Well, as you can understand for yourselves, this cut West European politicians to the quick because, for the majority of leaders including those of leading NATO countries, detente is the foundation of the political capital on which they base themselves, naturally, they turn to the voters during election campaigns, and upon which they construct their political line to show their substance as a leader. And in these circumstances, of course, one can understand just how shocked by that kind of statement were those who heard Weinberger. One can quote the West German paper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in connection with this. It writes: European NATO states, and Canada together with them, must see such statements by Weinberger as a slap in the face.

What is the point, in fact, of the compromises which have been reached with great difficulty if the defense secretary of the United States, the leading partner in the alliance, permits himself to just brush them aside? Here, the paper writes, the question arises not only of how serious Weinberger is, but West Europe's doubts are renewed about whether Washington regards the obligations it has taken upon itself really seriously.

[Lomeyko] The heart of the problem is that the West Europeans are, in a way, torn between detente and America. This is now their position was assessed in talks with me by many political and public figures of the FRG. On the one hand, West Germany, just like the majority of West European countries, is vitally interested in detente, in dialogue and cooperation with the Soviet Union. On the other hand, leading politicians in Bonn and other NATO capitals have to observe Atlantic discipline. And Washington, as we know, takes its own line, aimed at achieving military-strategic superiority, for the sake of which it wants to locate U.S. Euromissiles in West Europe.

[Ariyevich] Yes, these days the Western press is full of bitter admissions of the fact that the NATO countries, under pressure from Washington, are passing up for the umpteenth time the chance for dialogue, for talks with the Soviet Union. The West German magazine DER SPIEGEL has just published an article on relations between East and West, in which it calls on the West to have a dialogue with Moscow. The magazine writes: The Russians are the only ones who are at present conducting a clear and frank policy. Moscow's interest in strategic arms limitation agreements and its readiness to sign them really are great. The USSR has withdrawn 20,000 servicemen from the GDR, but they have already forgotten that in the West. And it is not, after all, the Russians who refused to ratify the SALT treaty--this pledge of the Americans has also been forgotten now. DER SPIEGEL stresses that shows of force and attempts to forget the tasks of detente are the best signposts on the road to cold war.

[Beglov] This problem, the problem of choice for West European governments between Washington's extremely militaristic stake on the one hand, and strengthening detente, transferring detente from the political sphere to the military on the other hand, was very clearly marked at the Madrid meeting of the representatives of the 35 states participating in the European conference. As our listeners know, this meeting has adjourned for the spring holiday, but at the same time, if we compare the way the last weeks of the meeting have gone with its beginning in November last year--and I was present at the beginning and attended the last week, in April, before the break, as a special correspondent--then one can say that the atmosphere has become considerably more like a working one, more businesslike. There is a lot of specific discussion of specific issues which will be included in the general document... [Lomeyko interrupts]

[Lomeyko] Spartak Ivanovich, it seems a positive role has been played by the fact that Leonid Ilich Brezhnev put forward a whole series of new initiatives, including those directly concerning the problems being discussed at Madrid, at the 26th party congress.

[Beglov] Precisely! There is now nobody in Madrid speaking in opposition to the idea of holding a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe. They are saying in Bonn, as something that stands to reason, that a European disarmament conference should take place--something they did not dare say before, and they are saying it now despite the frame of mind the U.S. leaders came there with.

And the main thing is that the proposals for expanding the zone of confidence-building measures introduced at the 26th CPSU Congress have, in general, played a decisive role in changing the mood of the majority of participants and in all the work of the Madrid forum.

One of the delegates, in conversation with me, said that the Soviet proposals, particularly those on expanding the zone of confidence-building measures, have saved the Madrid meeting.

[Lomeyko] And they have saved it despite the attempts of the Americans at the beginning to torpedo the meeting.

[Beglov] Yes, and unfortunately the Americans' aspirations somehow to turn the talks into fruitless polemics remain the most negative factor; but, as far as the majority of the other participants are concerned, true, the proposals are not all equally valuable and acceptable for the socialist countries, because some of them smack of NATO positions, and some encroach on the norms of international law. Nevertheless, a great deal has been done in order that the 40-page draft presented by 8 nonaligned neutral states should contain, as Comrade Ilichev, leader of the Soviet delegation, rightly said, a kind of organizational principle for even more fruitful work in the future, at the concluding stage of the Madrid meeting.

U.S. Foreign Relations

[Ariyevich] We have already mentioned Haig's trip to Western Europe. The head of the U.S. State Department is now trying to portray his recent trip to the Near East as another tremendous diplomatic success. However, the majority of observers consider this visit to have been a complete failure, since Haig failed to achieve his main goals--to persuade the Arab countries that the Soviet Union is supposedly the main threat to peace in the region and to use this as an excuse to force through the idea of deploying permanent U.S. military contingents in the Sinai and to foist U.S. weapons on the states of this region. These plans have encountered support only in Cairo and Tel Aviv. Jordan and Saudi Arabia, on the other hand, refused to take part in the establishment of an anti-Soviet military alliance, rightly seeing this as a threat to their own security.

Haig's categorical refusal to discuss the Palestinian problem also evoked serious dissatisfaction in the Arab countries, particularly in Saudi Arabia. Even the Cairo newspaper ASH-SHA'B noted that the openly pro-Israeli utterances of the U.S. secretary of state had caused such irritation that it was only traditional Arab hospitality that restrained the hosts from snubbing the impudent guest for his insolence and lack of manners. This is all the more so in that, evidently, it was no accident that the latest act in the Lebanese drama was timed by the Tel Aviv producers to coincide with Haig's visit to the Near East. In this way they clearly demonstrated the identity of those consenting to and supporting the frustration of a Near East settlement, and consequently the source of the threat to peace in the region.

So, as we see, the new Washington strategy is depressingly simple. The tactics used to foist its strategic goals are even more simple and straightforward. But the results could be just as depressing for the U.S. administration.

[Beglov] If we examine the Latin American region, for example, here, too, the emissaries from Washington encountered, generally speaking, a very negative or at any rate reserved attitude from governments toward the U.S. attempt to organize a campaign of struggle against the so-called Soviet threat in Central America and the Western hemisphere. For example, President Lopez Portillo of Mexico at first refused to receive the envoy from Washington. In other capitals of Latin America, too, there was no support for Washington's version of events.

As it happens, the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL has just written that the White Paper which Washington's emissaries took to the capitals of Latin America and Western Europe in order to mobilize the partners and allies of the United States for a kind of crusade against the threat of communism in Latin America, the so-called White Paper of evidence of Soviet interference in the affairs of Latin America, has turned out to be a collection of fabrications from start to finish. There is no doubt that false interpretations of this kind, which form the basis of Washington's foreign policy, were immediately spotted. They also obliged the governments of the Latin American region to be on their guards as well.

[Lomeyko] As our listeners know, the new President finally rode into the White House brandishing the banner of international terrorism, by which he means, you see, the national liberation movements. And this tactic of blackmail and pressure used by Washington in the formulation of its doctrines is clearly manifested in precisely this doctrine. Evidence of this is provided by revelations which were published by many newspapers and magazines in the West the other day. The revelations were made by Ralph MacGee, who until recently had spent more than 20 years as a senior member of the Central Intelligence Agency. He recently disclosed how materials about El Salvador were forged in order to prove the imaginary interference of Cuba and other socialist countries in the events in that country. Ralph MacGee showed--and this was backed up by his former colleague in the CIA, Philip Agee, who now lives in Hamburg--that the U.S. special services fabricated several documents to prove that Cuba and other socialist countries were supposedly supplying arms to the partisans of El Salvador. Philip Agee stressed that at one time he also prepared similar documents about other Latin American countries when he worked for the CIA. So, this tactic is not new. The sensational revelations by the former CIA members did not just expose the methods of ideological subversion. They actually showed how the so-called documentary substantiation for the doctrine of international terrorism which Reagan has proclaimed was prepared. Washington needed "proof" of Cuban interference in order to justify military aid to the rotten junta and to prepare for a possible U.S. intervention in El Salvador. This version of events was also used to accuse the socialist countries of supporting the national liberation movements, which were declared to be international terrorism.

The mask has now been torn off. The falsifiers have been exposed. But who will be held responsible for the fact that lies poisoned the climate of international relations for several months? The double standards of bourgeois politicians are truly unlimited.

[Beglov] But there is yet another illustration of these double standards. This is the incident in which a U.S. atomic submarine sank the Japanese freighter Nissho Maru on 9 April. And as all the aspects of this incident are studied, more and more questions arise: moral, legal and important political questions.

[Ariyevich] I would like to add here that the actions of the U.S. submarine can only be described as piratical. The spirit of such actions is in fact fully in keeping with international terrorism, which President Reagan has declared that he will fight against.

[Beglov] What was the outcome? The submarine left the scene of the incident without even picking up the sailors who were in dire straits after the vessel capsized. Japanese public concern is certainly not going to subside, because an important political issue has been raised, the fact that Japan is really an instrument of nuclear blackmail, that U.S. atomic submarines feel they rule the roost in her territorial or so-called territorial economic waters.

According to some reports, over 40 submarines of this kind, armed with Polaris nuclear missiles, are always on patrol in the vicinity of Japan. All this creates an atmosphere of disquiet among the Japanese. This disquiet is heightened by the fact that the military plans of the Pentagon and the Japanese Security Agency are being coordinated at this very moment. Plans for further participation by Japan in U.S. plans in the Pacific and the Far East are being coordinated. Here, too, one again notices the dangerous aspects of the global militaristic course in all areas of the world.

THE TIMES OF INDIA writes: Washington should be aware of the new realities in the world and halt its attempts to restore the illusion of its might. Such attempts ended ingloriously in the past, even when the United States was the strongest military power. These attempts will be even more futile now.

[Ariyevich] The new peace-loving initiatives put forward by the 26th CPSU Congress have become particularly important and timely in this international situation, which has become complicated by the intrigues of imperialist circles. It is for this reason that they are arousing such an immense public response. Life requires fruitful cooperation by all states and by all peace-loving forces for the sake of resolving the tasks facing all the peoples and all mankind. The Fourth All-Union Conference of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, which took place in Moscow this week, confirmed that world public opinion, aware of the danger of the situation which has arisen through the fault of aggressive imperialist circles, is more and more actively waging the struggle in defense of peace. As Leonid Ilich Brezhnev declared, for no single people is there now any issue more crucial and important than the maintenance of peace and the safeguarding of every human being's foremost right--the right to life.

We conclude our program at this point and bid you farewell. Thank you. All the best.

ZAMYATIN SPEAKS ON TV ON U.S. RELATIONS, POLAND

LD181454 Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 18 Apr, TASS--The recently held congresses of the fraternal communist parties of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and the GDR have shown the profound internationalism of the communists of those countries, their unity of action with the Soviet Union and its Communist Party, Leonid Zamyatin pointed out. The head of the International Information Department of the CPSU Central Committee, speaking today in the central television programme "Conversation on International Topics", said: The socialist community is now the mainstay of peace on earth more than ever before.

The congresses have shown that the countries of the socialist community handle varied and increasingly deep and complex tasks along the road of further development of the society of mature socialism. And this has to be done in the conditions of growing counteraction and at times overtly hostile actions on the part of the most aggressive forces of imperialism, U.S. one, [as received] in the first place.

Lately the international situation has become considerably complicated because in the U.S. policy there occurred a shift towards stepping up confrontation and spiralling up the arms race, Zamyatin pointed out. Unfortunately, he said, the present leadership of the USA, like the previous Carter administration, counts not on developing Soviet-U.S. relations and not on achieving mutual understanding between our countries. There are attempts to put pressure on us and to destroy everything positive that has been with a lot of difficulty achieved in our relations with the USA in recent years.

The Reagan administration, Zamyatin emphasized, does not conceal that it would like to gain an advantage over the Soviet Union militarily. Hence the bellicose calls and statements from the White House.

But the United States, Zamyatin said, will not manage to achieve a military superiority over the USSR. We shall not permit dictation of one's conditions to us. This was clearly stated from the rostrum of the 26th Congress of the CPSU by Leonid Brezhnev.

Zamyatin drew attention to the U.S. Defence Secretary Weinberger's latest pronouncements which bear "the character of impudence". "One can say that the defence secretary is a kind of herald of the anti-Soviet line in the U.S. administration. Belonging to him is also a certain new doctrine of open pressure on the Soviet Union, the doctrine which he is recommending for adoption by the entire administration and is even imposing it on U.S. allies for the military bloc of NATO".

"The forces of reaction", Zamyatin went on to say, "are trying to erode the socialist community, to undermine the foundations of socialism through interference in the internal affairs of socialist countries. Our political adversary is conducting a veritable undeclared psychological warfare against the countries of the socialist community and is trying to do everything to hinder the onward march of socialism. Absolutely everything is being resorted to: both demagoguery, support for counter-revolutionary forces in a number of countries, and subversive actions of other kind."

Zamyatin commented on the economic and political situation in Poland which, as he noted, remains complicated. The PZPR leadership and the government of the republic are doing everything possible to stabilise the situation.

The normalization of work and life in the country, however, is hampered by openly counterrevolutionary forces. Their main organisation is the so-called Social Defence Committee (KOR) which retains leading positions in the trade union association Solidarity. Having nothing to do with the working class, KOR is trying to manipulate this association for its interests, push it in such a direction so as to further destabilise the situation in the country.

Masking itself by the slogans of the protection of workers' interests, KOR pursues quite a definite goal--to pave the way for itself for political power in Poland.

Zamyatin said that activities of all these groups converge with those of other counterrevolutionary forces both in Poland and abroad. More and more facts emerge attesting to direct interference in Poland's affairs on the part of Western political figures who openly, as some figures in the United States do, admonish and warn the Government of the Polish People's Republic against taking measures to introduce proper order in its own country.

"We believe", Leonid Zamyatin said, "that the Polish working class, guided by the party, should itself cope with the crisis. Socialist countries are doing everything possible to back the Polish economy. I would like to recall once again Leonid Brezhnev's words that we will not abandon fraternal, socialist Poland in its hour of need, we will stand by it. The plans of internal and external reactionaries as regards socialist Poland have no future. The Polish communists, backed by all true patriots of Poland, will be able to repulse the designs of the enemies of the socialist system and uphold the cause of socialism, real interests of their people."

Further on Remarks

LD182144 Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 18 Apr, TASS--"The essence of the Camp David deal is "primarily the transformation of Egypt, following Israel, into a military strongpoint of American presence in the region," stressed Leonid Zamyatin, head of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department. Speaking on Soviet television today, he emphasized that "the deal sought to split the unity of the Arab world and split the anti-imperialist solidarity front." Touching upon the recent Middle East tour of U.S. Secretary of State Haig, who visited Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, Leonid Zamyatin said: "Haig was trying to convince his interlocutors that the Soviet Union allegedly posed the main threat now to the freedom and independence of the nations of this region." At the same time Haig was silent about a comprehensive Middle East settlement, a question which has been facing the region for many years.

While in Cairo, Leonid Zamyatin went on to say, Haig discussed the stationing of what is called multinational forces after the planned withdrawal of Israeli troops in April 1917. [date as received] According to the United States plan, 3,000 to 4,000 American troops should the bulk [as received] of these forces. The Haig visit, Leonid Zamyatin said, revealed large-scale plans for United States penetration into the region. "It is lawful to ask," he continued, "what can and must be done to achieve comprehensive peace on a just basis in this region. This was discussed at the 26th CPSU Congress in Leonid Brezhnev's report which stressed that the main thing was to settle disputes by negotiations, by means of open and honest dialogue taking into account the interests of all countries in the region." "In this case there might be progress in the settlement of this problem. This might be achieved at an international conference to which all interested countries, primarily Arab countries, should agree. No one else can decide their destiny. As for the Soviet Union, it has always displayed good will and said that it is prepared to hold talks aimed at collective search for comprehensive settlement on a realistic and just basis. We have made relevant proposals to states in this region. These have been largely supported by leading statesmen in that region and the world public. One can see, however, that these proposals differ from the intentions of the United States of America.

SUSLOV WRITES ON CPSU PROGRAM TO ENSURE PEACE

LD201017 Moscow TASS in English 0948 GMT 20 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 20 Apr, TASS--The Soviet people fully approves of the persistent programme advanced by the 26th Congress of the CPSU for the prevention of the threat of war and for ensurance of peace, Mikhail Suslov, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, emphasizes in a contribution to the journal PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN (PARTY LIFE). He writes that "The foreign policy programme of the congress is particularly important and topical now that the aggressive imperialist circles, under the cover of the invention about a 'Soviet military threat', are spiralling up the arms race and are counting on stepping up military opposition to the world of socialism and to the liberation movement".

The author points out, in particular, that "U.S. imperialism, trying on a world-gendarme uniform, hinders a settlement of acute conflict situations and creates new seats of tension in various areas of the world. Particularly dangerous are plans for an accelerated creation and deployment of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction and psychological manipulation of population through the propaganda of every kind of 'doctrines' and 'directives' which argue that a nuclear war is admissible."

"The international public and realistically-minded figures", Mikhail Suslov goes on, "can compare with their own eyes the two foreign-policy courses; that of peace and cooperation represented by the 26th Congress of the CPSU, and that of militant adventurism, diktat and nuclear blackmail pursued by the imperialist circles. The result of such a comparison is indubitable for an overwhelming majority of people: Their sympathies and growing support are on the side of the program of peace, continuation of detente, peaceful coexistence and cooperation between states and peoples". The article points out that "The 26th congress in all definiteness expressed the firm intention of the CPSU to continue to do everything to lessen the threat of war, to overcome barriers which are being set up by the forces of imperialism and hegemonism in the way of peaceful cooperation of peoples. It was firmly stated from the rostrum of the congress that the USSR does not seek military superiority over the USA and will not allow building up such superiority over itself. "Many are aware that the military strategic balance which has evolved between the USSR and the USA, between the Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO objectively serves the safeguarding of peace. The USSR's new peace initiatives broaden the ground for fruitful negotiations and adoption of positive decisions. It is now up to the governments of the USA and the other NATO countries", the author concludes.

WESTERN OPPOSITION TO NAMIBIA INDEPENDENCE VIEWED

LD171030 Moscow TASS in English 0630 GMT 17 Apr 81

["Freedom to the Namibian People"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Apr. TASS--TASS commentator Vladimir Iatyash writes: Today a special session of the Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement opened in the capital of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. The session will discuss the situation in Namibia, illegally occupied by the South African regime. The more than 50 delegates which have arrived from Asia, African and Latin American countries will chart practical measures to give political, military and diplomatic support to the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which is leading the struggle of the Namibian people for freedom and independence. The Algerian forum will proceed against the background of incessant provocative manoeuvres by the Western power, above all the U.S. with the principal aim of retaining by all means that territory, famous for its mineral wealth, in the fetters of colonial slavery.

The Pretoria racists stubbornly refuse to hand power over to the patriots and resort to all means of suppression, including modern war technology, in order to preserve colonialism in Namibia. In so doing, they enjoy the whole-hearted support of the U.S. and other leading capitalist countries. The latest belligerent statements of the new Washington administration, particularly their calls for combating "terrorists"--and they stick this label on all fighters for national liberation--give strong encouragement to the Pieter Botha clique. The Pretoria regime hopes for extending military cooperation with the U.S. and other NATO countries in suppressing the struggle of the Namibian people and overtly offers the West its military bases to secure such cooperation. The perfidious schemes of Washington are indicated by the stand on Namibia taken the other day by Chester Crocker, assistant secretary of state for Africa. The Washington emissary went so far as claiming that the U.N. plan providing for the termination of the occupation of Namibia by the racists and for conducting free elections under international control there, could not be a complete base for settlement. Instead the White House, resorting to hypocritical phrases about the need for "a peaceful settlement of the Namibian problem", is seeking to push through a plan intended to preserve the interests of the occupants and their puppets in Namibia.

In this situation the Non-Aligned Movement is stepping up its efforts to secure genuine independence for Namibia. These efforts are wholeheartedly supported by the Soviet Union, which is resolutely siding itself with the Namibian people and their vanguard, SWAPO, in their struggle for freedom.

PRESS CONFERENCE WITH NATO'S LUNS REPORTED

LD172336 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1625 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Washington, 17 Apr (TASS)--U.S. President R. Reagan has received J. Luns, secretary general of NATO, who is visiting here. Political observers assess the current talks, in which Vice President G. Bush and Secretary of State A. Haig are also taking part, as a component part of the efforts undertaken by the U.S. administration and the militarist circles of NATO to further escalate the arms race and speed up the deployment of American medium-range nuclear missiles on the territory of a number of West European states.

Talking to journalists, Luns commended the administration for its course aimed at "increasing the military strength of the United States" and "strengthening unity" with the partners of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc. He appealed yet again for "modernization" of the arms and military forces of NATO. Secretary of State Haig spoke in the same vein.

Explaining the program of stepping up NATO militarist preparations, Luns claimed that it is aimed precisely at obtaining the agreement of the Soviet Union to "talks with the West in the sphere of disarmament;" he said nothing of the fact that it was the USSR which forward the new initiatives and which consistently advocated talks on limiting nuclear missiles in Europe, including U.S. forward-based missiles in that region.

A journalist who was present at the meeting has dealt a rebuff to the fabrications of the NATO secretary general. "As far as we know," he said, "the Soviet Union long ago declared its willingness to hold such talks. It's not the Soviet Union, but the United States, that is holding back from starting them."

COMMENT ON STATEMENT BY JOINT CHIEFS' CHAIRMAN

LD172022 Moscow TASS in English 1915 GMT 17 Apr 81

["General Jones Dreaming"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Apr, TASS--TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes: The Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff David Jones has made an absurd statement to the effect that the Soviet Union allegedly strives to "establish its control" over the Middle-Eastern oil and thus "to put the West on its knees". Naturally, however, he could not adduce any proof to support the statement, that is why speaking on Thursday in the Council of International Affairs of the city of Boston, General Jones resorted to usual anti-Soviet insinuations. Jones said that the United States "sparing no effort" in trying to convince its West-European allies that the threat to the West's oil interests emanates from the USSR.

Washington's representatives, in fact, spare no effort to fan up the noisy campaign about the alleged "Soviet threat" piling up one fabrication on top of another about some "insidious designs" which the USSR has never had and will never have.

What is the purpose of all these fabrications? The fact is that the United States itself strives to get hold of the Middle Eastern oil and at the same time to get its European allies to help them in doing that. And in order to stimulate the Western allies into joint actions with Washington in the region, the American leaders are spreading the patent lie about an alleged "Soviet threat" to the oil wealth of the Near and Middle East and to the oil transportation routes. Simultaneously, U.S. strategists are fanning up tensions in the area, building up their military presence and are working to extend NATO's military sphere to cover the region of the Middle East and the Persian Gulf. It would be absurd, however, to surmise that one can "defend" the oil interests of the West by turning the area into a powder keg.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly stated that it is prepared, in a constructive spirit and from positions of good will, to take part and cooperate with all those who express a sincere desire to assure a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

'NEW POLICY' TO EXPAND ARMS SALES VIEWED

LD191506 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Washington, 19 Apr (TASS)--The Reagan administration is completing the development of a "new policy" on the sale of arms to foreign states, a policy which intends to remove all the curbs on the export of lethal goods which had previously been in force. This was made clear in a speech to journalists in Washington by a highly-placed official of the U.S. State Department who wished to remain anonymous.

He declared that the new administration regards the sale of arms as one of the instruments of its foreign policy and national security. Henceforth, any "friendly country" can purchase any kind of arms in the United States. Moreover, he indicated that moral considerations or the human rights situation will not be taken into consideration for the sale of arms.

One of the first steps to implement this line, which leads to the aggravation of international tension, was a directive U.S. Under Secretary of State J. Buckley sent to American embassies abroad. It ordered that every assistance should be rendered to representatives of military corporations to promote their products on foreign markets.

However, political observers indicate that the new Washington administration effectively abandoned all curbs on the sale of arms to foreign states even before the policy "review."

The sale of F-16 fighters to Taiwan is being considered. It is revealing that, according to the State Department spokesman, the new policy will not involve an automatic ban on the sale of American arms to China. Moreover, AP reports that "The administration has indicated that it is ready to broaden the agreement on military purchases between China and the United States."

The United States is thus taking another big step to broaden the "export of death," in which it is firmly holding onto its world lead.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN U.S. WORDS, DEEDS NOTED

LD171540 Moscow TASS in English 1347 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Political news analyst Valdimir Serov commentary]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Apr, TASS--Discontent is growing in Western Europe over the tactics of procrastination used by the U.S. administration on the problem of resuming the Soviet-American talks on strategic arms limitations. The attempt on the part of the U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger to link the beginning of such negotiations with issues which have nothing to do with this problem has caused a highly negative reaction there. Many think that the tough position taken by Weinberger in effect reduces to naught the second part of the "dual decision" of NATO concerning talks on nuclear arms limitations in Europe.

In attempting to stem the tide of discontent rising in Europe over such U.S. policies, Washington decided to resort to a ploy and to introduce some adjustments into its tactics. Secretary of State Alexander Haig asserted at a press conference in Washington that the American side took a serious attitude to negotiations and that he hoped that they would be resumed "in a not so distant future." At the same time he stressed that negotiations must be conducted in "parallel" with the deployment in Western Europe of new U.S. nuclear missiles.

It is common knowledge that the seriousness of the declarations made by statesmen is tested by their actions, and the actions of the U.S. leaders show that they are not after negotiations, but rather have embarked on an intensified build-up of armaments in order to achieve a military-strategic superiority over the Soviet Union. The development of new types of weapons and the deployment in Western Europe of "Pershing-II" and cruise missiles is by far a greater concern to them than the security of the Europeans.

One of the newsmen present at Alexander Haig's press conference made the following rejoinder: "As far as we know, the Soviet Union has long stated its readiness to resume these talks. It is not the Soviet Union but rather the United States that is delaying their start." If there is a correct thing said, this is the one.

Incidentally, the statements of the U.S. secretary of state are disavowed by his own officials. "Some State Department officials," writes the knowledgeable New York TIMES, "consider that the Reagan administration will not be ready for serious talks till the end of this year."

It is not clear in the light of the whole of the above-stated as to who really strives for a serious dialogue and who only talks about talks while in effect does everything to avoid them.

KOMMUNIST ARTICLE CRITICIZES U.S. NUCLEAR STRATEGY

LD171506 Moscow TASS in English 1407 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 17 Apr, TASS--"The whole history of the nuclear arms race in the post-war years is that of the unsuccessful attempts of U.S. imperialism at ending the nuclear deadlock," Aleksey Arbatov writes in the KOMMUNIST journal, a publication of the CPSU Central Committee. "The hopes of the American politicians and strategists to gain nuclear supremacy over the Soviet Union, or at least ensure for the United States unilateral military advantages," he points out, "have never come true in the past, and the more so are doomed to a failure with the present global balance of forces. The economy, science and technology in our country are now at such a high level that we are capable of creating within the shortest possible time any type of weapons on which the enemies of peace would like to place stake. [sentence as received] The Soviet Union has not and will not permit anybody to speak with it in the language of threats and blackmail."

The development of the U.S. nuclear strategy over the recent 20-30 years demonstrates another regularity," the author points out. "The more complicated and sophisticated Washington's strategic concepts have been growing, the more they have been departing from the realities of the international situation. The fresh increases in the arsenal of global devastation practically change nothing as regards the sufficiency of the already accumulated nuclear potentials for destroying life on the earth many times. The very notion of military supremacy in its traditional meaning--as an ability to win in combat actions--becomes void of any meaning and gets inaccessible with the present huge nuclear weapons arsenals. [sentence as received]

"It is getting increasingly more difficult for the proponents of the arms race to substantiate a further build-up and perfection of the nuclear potential," Aleksey Arbatov goes on to write. "They are forced to have recourse to increasingly far-fetched arguments. But they are not at all embarrassed by the fact that such arguments hold no water. Quite real arms worth tens of billions of dollars are created in support of the new concepts."

"As total nuclear aggression against the Soviet Union would be an act of suicide for the United States, and a disarming strike is impracticable in the present-day conditions, a quest has been started for a way out of the deadlock along the lines of 'selective nuclear attacks' and 'limited counterforce strikes' concepts, which are designed to give the United States a weapon of political pressure on the opposite side. The ideas of a 'limited war' and the armaments substantiating them are designed, according to the idea of the authors of such concepts, to convince the world that the use of nuclear weapons (tactical and then strategic) by the United States is not unthinkable, as it will not inevitably involve total destruction, as they claim. Exposing the essence of this attitude, Leonid Brezhnev pointed out from the rostrum of the 26th Congress of the CPSU: 'An attempt is made to impress on people that nuclear war can be a limited one, and to make them get accustomed to the idea of admissibility of such a war.'

"In all evidence," Aleksey Arbatov goes on to write, "Washington's calculations to rally closely under their leadership the capitalist allies in Western Europe, to draw them into the orbit of anti-Soviet policy through a build-up of the arms race, are unjustified too. The U.S. partners, as recent events have borne out, show increasing aptitude for independence, concern for their own interests, which in a much greater degree, compared with their overseas patron, are connected with prospects for European detente and cooperation. All the peace forces on the continent meet with growing concern the ever more sophisticated strategic ideas and plans of intensive arms race stemming from Washington. This is understandable as what may be considered as a 'limited nuclear war' on the overseas theatre of military operations would turn into total nuclear destruction for the European."

PENTAGON SHUTTLE PLANS CONTRAVENE TREATIES

LD180424 Moscow in English to North America 2250 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Military observer Aleksey Vasilyev commentary]

[Text] The world community watched the space shuttle launch with mixed feelings. On the one hand one cannot help viewing with interest the technological achievement of American workers, engineers and scientists who designed and built the shuttle and admire the courage of Astronauts John Young and Robert Crippen, but on the other hand many people wondered for what purpose the shuttle was designed and what its future program provides for.

Former Air Force Secretary Mark said the Pentagon had taken part in the development of the shuttle at all the key stages. Deputy chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force, General O'Mally, made possible by the shuttle's launch are one of the priorities of the Pentagon. The New York TIMES says bluntly that the space shuttle would [sentence as received] play an important part in gaining strategic superiority over America's opponents.

These pronouncements clearly run counter to a whole range of intergovernmental agreements, and among them the 1972 Soviet-American treaty on limiting antimissile systems. The treaty contains an article which defines the special part played by satellites is an important factor in ensuring international stability. The development of the capability to destroy satellites can destabilize the international situation. The provocative nature of military preparations in space too is very dangerous, after all antisatellite and antimissile hardware have very much in common.

In other words the development of antisatellite systems can be construed as a violation of the treaty on limiting antimissile systems. There have been many indications in the American press that attempts are being made to undermine that treaty. The Baltimore SUN named the testing of a laser sighting device on board the shuttle as one of the first problems to be solved with the help of the reusable craft. The device can be used for destroying Soviet missiles, but this constitutes a branch of the treaty since it bans the development of space based antimissile systems.

The proposed utilization of the shuttle for military purposes also violates another international agreement. Suffice it to recall the treaty on the principles of space research and utilization of 1967. According to this treaty space studies should benefit all of mankind and promote peace and international security. The pronouncements on military supremacy and new arms systems based on orbital craft clearly contradict the letter and spirit of this treaty. In the past the United States has made similar attempts to gain strategic superiority, it has developed the atomic and hydrogen bombs, nuclear submarines, multiple warheads and many other types of arms. All these attempts to gain unilateral advantages ended in crisis, huge amounts of money squandered, and what's more important, in a strategic parity but at a higher level.

The arms race in space poses another danger. Space based arms systems are hard to control and they violate existing agreements. Another spiral of the arms race involving such systems will make it very difficult or even impossible to reach an agreement on limiting strategic arms. The exploration of space is one of the most important tasks facing mankind. Space studies can help solve many global problems such as the pollution of the environment, the effective utilization of natural resources and many others. But these problems can only be solved in conditions of peace and international cooperation. Space studies should be aimed at benefitting mankind on the basis of international cooperation and not at developing new arms systems.

RENMIN RIBAO CITED ON MAO'S MERITS, DEMERITS

LD171930 Moscow TASS in English 1445 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Beijing, 17 Apr, TASS--Recently, the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO published a statement by the permanent secretary of the CPC Central Commission on the control of discipline, Huang Kecheng at a colloquium devoted to "Some of the Principled Questions of Intraparty Life".

Judging by the text published, this statement to some extent sums up the discussions conducted within the Communist Party of China on questions of assessing Mao Zedong and his ideological heritage.

As is known, a sharp struggle continues in China at all levels around these problems. The statement also says that of late "certain comrades have expressed rather harsh judgments" on Mao Zedong and his ideas, while some even "engaged in an unbridled denigration of the ideas of Mao Zedong", and "reviled him". Stressing the inadmissibility of such an approach to Mao Zedong and to his ideological heritage, Huang Kecheng laid a special stress on the fact that "a renunciation of Mao Zedong's ideas leads to ideological confusion in the party and the people".

Huang Kecheng says: "How one understands and evaluates Chairman Mao and what attitude one takes to Mao's ideas is a question of principle for the party and the state." The answer to this question in the above statement is quite definite: "Mao Zedong's ideas are the most valuable wealth which he has bequeathed to us. We shall be guided by them in our activities", "the chief provisions of Mao Zedong's ideas constitute the guiding ideology for our party and our state."

The statement contains a rather detailed hindsight view of the history of the CPC and the Chinese revolution. In the process, it eulogizes the "wisdom and correctness" of Mao Zedong's tenets, his "immortal feats" and "historic merits". In the face of numerous facts it is asserted that all the successes of the Chinese revolution, be they during the civil war with Guomindang, during the war with Japan or in the course of the final liberation of the country, are due to Mao Zedong. In those cases, however, when his "leadership was ignored" the revolution in China "sustained great damage." The statement provides a biased and distorted presentation of the relations between the Comintern and the CPC at the various stages of the Chinese revolution. Mao Zedong's leadership in the first years following the creation of the PRC is declared to be "wise and correct" despite the fact that at that time the adventurist course of Mao Zedong and his entourage was already beginning to be felt in the economic, ideological and other fields, which later led the country to the disaster of the "Big Leap" and the excesses of the "cultural revolution".

The publication speaks in the most general form about the "deficiencies, mistakes and even some grave errors committed by Mao Zedong in the last period of his life". In the process, special prominence is given to the statement of Deng Xiaoping that "the merits of Chairman Mao must be placed first while his mistakes second". Referring to the roots of these mistakes, RENMIN RIBAO is attempting to explain them away in the first place by some "profound historical and social causes". However, not even a semblance of an attempt is made to give a serious analysis to these causes. Besides, Mao's mistakes are passed off as very nearly his merits. The publication asserts that "in the later period of his life Chairman Mao entertained great and sublime goals. In his life he strove to be able to telescope into several scores of years what takes several hundred years to achieve."

This statement keeps totally silent on such questions as Mao Zedong's personal responsibility for the so-called "special course" in the internal and foreign policy of China--the voluntaristic experiments like the "Great Leap", the forcible establishment of the "communes" in Chinese villages, the massive violence unleashed against the cadres of the party and the state during the numerous political campaigns and purges. Not a word is said about the rupture of relations with the international communist movement, the renunciation by the Chinese leaders of the principles of proletarian internationalism, the turn from friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to rabid anti-Sovietism, to the struggle against world socialism and against other progressive forces of today. The initiator of all this was Mao Zedong who, having broken with Marxism-Leninism, had embarked on the positions of Great-Khan chauvinism, voluntarism and hegemonism.

The statement expresses serious concern over the fact that "Some would wish us to renounce our precious heritage--the ideas of Mao Zedong", condemns those who assert that it is "sufficient to rely only on Marxism-Leninism", and goes out of its way to emphasize "the special features" and the "specificity" of China. This approach is nothing but a fresh confirmation of the nationalist position of the current Chinese leadership which denies the universal nature of Marxism-Leninism and proclaims the "sinoised Marxism" in the shape of "Mao Zedong's ideas" to be an unshakable ideological and political foundation of the CPC. Besides, the Beijing leaders assert that the "quintessence of the ideas of Mao Zedong" will always be the "spiritual weapon of the revolutionary peoples" and continue to insist on the old claim that the ideological heritage of Mao is of world importance.

The statement of Huang Kecheng expresses some share of concern over the penetration into China from the West of bourgeois ideas and their growing influence, especially on the younger generation of the Chinese, which manifests itself in their "admiration for capitalism". It is well known, however, that the doors to China were flung wide open to all these hostile influences by the Beijing leaders themselves who agree to the dangerous partnership with imperialism in the name of their hegemonist, anti-Soviet aims.

SOVIET-CHINESE FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY'S ROLE VIEWED

LD200540 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 19 Apr 81

[Excerpts] The Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society is a member of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

The Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society has done a lot of work in promoting friendly ties with the Chinese people. In the past few years, the society sponsored many activities, such as celebration to mark the 110th anniversary of the birth of the great democratic revolutionary Dr Sun Yat-sen, the 60th anniversary of the 4 May Movement, the 50th anniversary of the Shanghai Uprising and the Nanchang Uprising and of the Guangzhou Commune. In addition the society also held evening parties to commemorate CCP members and internationalists Li Dazhao, Qu Qiubai, Peng Bai and Wang Ling; and the literary and art activists Lu Xun, Mao Dun, Zhu Libo, Lao She, Ba Jin and Mei Lanfang.

It has virtually become a tradition for veteran members of the society to meet regularly. Such meetings remind people of many unforgettable memories from the past of brotherly sentiment between the USSR and China and between the Soviet and the Chinese peoples. The Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society attaches importance to holding evening parties to commemorate major past cooperation between the USSR and China. The society holds that its major task is to continue to promote, consolidate and develop brotherly friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Chinese peoples and to realize the CPSU's and the USSR's policy of normalizing relations with China.

TASHKENT ON POWER STRUGGLE AMONG PRC LEADERSHIP

CF191011 [Editorial Report] Tashkent International Service in Uzbek at 1700 GMT on 18 April carries a station observer commentary entitled: "The Situation in the PRC." The radio says the struggle for power among Beijing leaders is in full swing and adds: "This struggle is being waged between the two main factions of the PRC leadership--the Deng Xiaoping group and that of Hua Guofeng."

Noting that the discord between Beijing leaders has led to suffering among the people, affected the PRC foreign policy and created economic problems, the radio adds: "The PRC budget deficit last year was over 17 billion yuan. Tax on basic commodities such as [words indistinct] increased 15 to 20 percent."

The radio says that due to the deteriorating economic situation, plans for building new factories in the country have been shelved and that "the number of unemployed in the PRC has now reached 30 million."

In referring to the people's opposition to the Beijing leaders, the radio notes that the Beijing leaders have been resorting to every means to suppress opposition against their policies and against the current state of affairs. It adds: "They are even using the army for this purpose. This is a situation that prevailed during the Mao era. Local provincial and city officials have been empowered to take any action they deem necessary to suppress any kind of opposition."

Stating that "the Beijing leaders' policies constitute the main reason for the current state of affairs in the PRC," the radio accuses them of abandoning socialist principles for the sake of promoting their own interests and adds that this has slowed the country's progress.

The radio concludes by stating that the Beijing leaders aspire to create a great state but that they will be defeated by the people's movement.

EXPANDING JAPANESE DEFENSE COMMITMENT VIEWED

LD172010 Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 17 Apr 81

["New Concession to Washington"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Apr, TASS--TASS news analyst Vasilii Kharkov writes:

A document of the Cabinet of Ministers concerning a sphere of action of Self-Defence Forces outside the country was issued in Japan today. The document says that the areas of the use of the Self-Defence Forces are not limited to the country's territory, its territorial waters and air space.

The Cabinet of Ministers which endorsed the viewpoint of the national Defence Agency asserts that this ostensibly does not violate the known provisions of the current Constitution which prohibits Japan from creating military potential. Such an interpretation of the fundamental law cannot be qualified in any other way than an attempt at taking out its anti-war essence and at removing the juridical barrier to speeding up the country's rearmament.

The document, which has been issued in the form of the government's reply to interpellations by deputies of Parliament from opposition parties, does not specify the geographical boundaries of possible actions by the Self-Defence Forces. It only says that they will depend on a situation which will take shape under emergency circumstances. The KYODO news agency holds that the Cabinet of Ministers thereby reserves freedom of action. But the expansion of the sphere of action of Japanese Self-Defence Forces to beyond the country's boundaries is undoubtedly a concession to pressure of Washington which has long been seeking to secure that Japan play a more active role in the realization of the Pentagon's military-strategic role in Asia.

The USA, in particular, is stubbornly steering matters to shifting a considerable part of the military functions, which are being performed now by the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the north-western Pacific Ocean right up to the Philippines and Guam Island, on to its Far Eastern ally.

Facts show that, contrary to the Japanese people's will, Washington is seeking to take the Japanese Self-Defence Forces out into the "international arena," and to attach them more broadly to the U.S. nuclear-missile strategy in the Pacific Ocean area. There is every indication that in this it finds support on the part of the Japanese ruling circles.

It is significant that the present document is issued simultaneously with the Japanese-U.S. military talks which began today. Admiral Robert Long, commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific, who arrived in Tokyo for the talks in known as a zealous advocate of Japan's armament and closer Japanese-U.S. military cooperation. The talks are being held at a time when Japan has been swept with a storm of public indignation over the sinking of a Japanese ship by a U.S. submarine. This showed once again what a serious danger is posed by this cooperation to Japan's national interests.

FURTHER JAPANESE REACTION TO SUB COLLISION NOTED

LD181326 Moscow TASS in English 1310 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Text] Tokyo, 18 Apr, TASS--The public of Japan is demanding a speediest investigation of the incident with the U.S. nuclear-powered submarine which sank the Japanese merchant vessel Nissho Maru in the East China Sea and which left the ship's crew to the mercy of fate. The public wrathfully condemns the criminal actions by the U.S. military as well as the Japanese Government's passive stand in this matter.

After Washington unequivocally made it clear that it does not intend to let Japan, at least in the near future, into the details of the disaster, the opposition again came out for an earliest convocation of a plenary session of the two houses of parliament to discuss the matter. The Communist Party of Japan pointed out that the Japanese Government should lodge a vigorous protest with the USA at the sinking of the Nissho Maru.

As a result of the disaster which occurred not far from the Kyushu Island, the Japanese came to know facts which were thoroughly concealed from them, namely, that U.S. nuclear-powered submarines with nuclear weapons on board constantly ply in Japan's coastal waters in keeping with the U.S. nuclear strategy.

The incident vividly showed not only the dangerous essence of the Japanese-U.S. 'security treaty' but also the fact that the destiny of the Japanese population is in Washington's hands, writes the newspaper AKAHATA.

Judging by the fact that ships of the Japanese navy rapidly appeared in the area where the submarine of the U.S. Navy collided with the Nissho Maru, one can suppose that joint Japanese-U.S. naval exercises, involving the submarine George Washington, too, were taking place near the shores of Kyushu. The recent statements by the Cabinet of the Liberal Democrats about the need to make such joint exercises more active taken into account, there is every reason to believe that they are already held in an atmosphere of utter secrecy, the newspaper points out.

The government should take all measures to find out the circumstances of the incident, as a result of which two Japanese seamen died, and to demand that the U.S. administration give an exhaustive explanation, AKAHATA points out.

JAPANESE-SOVIET SALMON CATCH TALKS REACH IMPASSE

OW160033 Tokyo KYODO in English 0014 GMT 16 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Moscow April 15 KYODO --The first round of top-level talks aimed at breaking the current impasse in Japan-Soviet negotiations to decide this year's salmon catch quotas in the northwest Pacific waters was held here Wednesday but no progress was made. The talks were held between Director General Nobuo Imamura of the Japanese Fisheries Agency and Soviet First Deputy Fisheries Minister Nikolay Kudryavtsev. The second round of meeting between the two was scheduled to be held Thursday.

At the current governmental Japan-Soviet negotiations, which started on April 6, Japan proposed that it be allowed to catch 45,000 tons of salmon, 2,500 tons more than last year, in 1981. The Soviet Union, however, proposed that Japan's quota be set at 40,000 tons. It also wants Japan to pay a "fishery cooperation fee" of 4.17 billion yen, or much higher than last year's 3.75 yen billion.

Japan so far has not revealed the amount it is willing to pay to the Soviet Union. Japanese officials said Kudryavtsev, at his meeting with Imamura, pressed Japan to indicate the figure it is ready to pay. Although differences still exist, they said both countries are hoping to come to an agreement on the catch quotas and other issues during this week.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS GROWING SOVIET-KOREAN TIES

SK171300 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 15 Apr 81

[Station commentator (Mikhaylov) commentary]

[Text] In 2 weeks we will mark May Day, the day of international solidarity. The Soviet people and the people of the socialist countries are making preparations to greet this day in a festive mood and with political and labor zeal.

The CPSU Central Committee has published slogans as is its traditional practice. These slogans reflect the basic direction of the domestic and foreign policies of the CPSU and the Soviet Government. Through them, the CPSU Central Committee has sent May Day greetings to the people of the fraternal socialist countries who are linked with the Soviet people by ties and invincible friendship and comprehensive cooperation.

Friendly relations have been maintained between the workers of the Soviet Union and the DPRK based on the principles of socialist internationalism. The workers of the two countries have been firmly united by the common aim and task of building a socialist and communist society, and by the identity of their ideology--Marxism-Leninism.

The Soviet people note with great satisfaction the continuous strengthening and development of the comprehensive cooperation between the Soviet Union and Korea to meet the interests of our people. The exchange of mutual visits by party and government leaders has become a tradition in the relations between the Soviet Union and the DPRK. In the course of these visits, views on the building of communism and socialism in our two countries have been exchanged, and urgent international issues have been discussed. Ties between deputies to the people's assemblies of our two countries and contacts between social organizations, artistic unions and enterprise management bodies have been developed. Government-level agreements on economic cooperation have been successfully implemented. With the technical aid of our country, nearly 60 major economic projects have been rehabilitated, reconstructed or built in People's Korea. These projects form the backbone of the republic's national economy.

Soviet-Korean economic cooperation is effectively developing today. With the participation of the Soviet Union, 11 projects are being built in fraternal Korea. When these projects are commissioned, the production capacity in the DPRK to produce rolled steel, machinery, electricity, nitrogenous fertilizer and other goods will significantly increase.

Daily life convincingly shows in practice that the national goals of the socialist countries can be attained only through joint efforts in accordance with the principle of mutual aid and reciprocity, together with the implementation of the common tasks of international socialism.

The Soviet Union has consistently supported the righteous struggle of the Korean people to peacefully reunify their country on the principle of democracy. This stand was reconfirmed in the party Central Committee's report to the 26th congress. In his report at this meeting, Comrade Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: In extending solidarity to the struggle of the DPRK to peacefully reunify its fatherland without interference by foreign forces, the Soviet Union has striven to deepen and enrich its ties with this republic.

The Soviet people, who have been indoctrinated in the spirit of socialist internationalism, have made great efforts to strengthen and develop their friendly and cooperative relations with the Korean people. On the eve of May Day, a great holiday of the workers of the world, we extend warm greetings to our friends in People's Korea and wish them new labor successes. We also hope that they will quickly achieve the fatherland's reunification.

KARMAL WRITES ON CPSU CONGRESS, AFGHAN PROBLEMS

LD200903 Moscow TASS in English 0824 GMT 20 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 20 Apr, TASS--"We are confident that with the help of our Soviet friends we shall be able to overcome all difficulties and to build a new and just society in our country", said Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and the prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

"The 26th Congress of the CPSU", Babrak Karmal writes in the KOMMUNIST, the journal of the CPSU Central Committee, "was an outstanding event for the Soviet people as well as for all progressive mankind. It has had and will continue to have for a long time a beneficial effect on the consolidation of all the sections of the world revolutionary process, on the preservation and strengthening of world peace". "We fully agree with the conclusions made in the report generalising the leading tendencies in the advance of the young states along the road of progress. They help us understand better the course of social development in these states. Naturally, the ways of development of these countries vary widely depending on the conditions in a given country and relationships between states in a given region and the rest of the world. But the principal directions of their progressive development are similar. These are specified by Leonid Brezhnev in the CPSU Central Committee's Report to the congress". "The all-round analysis of the development of young countries, made at the 26th congress, is of exceedingly great value to the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. Our party, which became a ruling party not long ago, badly needs a theoretical elaboration of prospects for the development of our country along revolutionary-democratic lines, prospects taking into account objective conditions and subjective factors".

"The Soviet Union's stand with regard to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan meets the basic interests of our revolution, the working people of Afghanistan and guarantees the advance of the revolution and the social and economic progress of the DRA", Babrak Karmal goes on. "We are profoundly grateful to the CPSU, the government and the heroic people of the Soviet Union for the resolute support and the all-round and timely assistance they gave to our country at a most difficult period in its history with the object of repelling the armed aggression by the reactionary and imperialist forces and defending the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Afghanistan. The assistance given by the Soviet Union prevented Afghanistan from being dismembered. That is the reason why the enemies of Afghanistan launched a frantic slander propaganda campaign against the Soviet Union's assistance and the new stage of the April revolution. Had it not been for the Soviet Union's timely assistance there would be no free, independent and sovereign Afghanistan in existence today". "After the successful conclusion of the new stage of the Afghan revolution all kinds of persecution and groundless repressions were ended and revolutionary legality and the real principles of the April revolution restored. The personal immunity of citizens was ensured and conditions created for the repatriation of persons who had left their homeland as a result of threats and deception by enemies, imperialists and reaction." "Despite machinations by the counter-revolution and its benefactors abroad the economic situation in our country gives rise to confidence", Babrak Karmal says, "agricultural and industrial production in 1980 was somewhat above the 1979 level. Things have livened up in foreign trade, too. We are absolutely sure that we would have achieved still greater successes if there had been no interference from outside and no subversion by gangs which are smuggled in from abroad. U.S. imperialism is trying to intensify the arms race under the pretext of the so-called 'Afghan question' and to whip up a cold-war hysteria against Afghanistan and the USSR.

"We are certain to win and the cause for which Afghan revolutionaries give their lives in the struggle against imperialism, reaction and hegemonism is a right and historically justified cause.

"The 26th Congress of the CPSU has become for the Afghan revolutionaries one more powerful source of inspiration in the struggle for this right and great cause", Babrak Karmal stressed.

AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER STOPS OVER IN MOSCOW

LD192202 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 19 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 19 Apr, TASS--Foreign Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Shah Mohammed Dost has arrived in Moscow today en route to Czechoslovakia.

At the airport he was welcomed by USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kornienko and other officials.

PFLP OFFICIAL PRAISES SOVIET AID TO AFGHANISTAN

LD191928 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 19 Apr 81

[Statement by Taysir Qubba'ah, member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] Central Committee Political Bureau and head of the PFLP delegation to Afghanistan--recorded]

[Text] It is very natural that, in this time when imperialist and Arab reactionary circles are spreading all sorts of propaganda against the Afghan revolution and people, a PFLP delegation--part of the Palestinian Liberation Organization--should visit Kabul so as to declare our full solidarity and support for the revolution and the people of Afghanistan.

We are all aware of the fact that Reagan has openly declared his readiness to provide arms to the rebels who left their homeland, Afghanistan. Saudi Arabia is also giving arms and money. China is also giving arms to Pakistan and consequently to the rebels in order to harm the revolution of the Afghan people.

We, as a Palestinian revolution movement and part of the liberation movements in the world, observe that imperialism is experiencing a crisis. One reason for this crisis is the triumph of the liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. It is very natural for the bourgeois press and information to wage dubious campaigns, which have no objective foundation, against the liberation movements and against what is taking place here in Afghanistan.

We came here a week ago. We have noticed that the situation in Afghanistan is very calm; order and calm prevail; mass organizations, student, youth, workers and women's organizations are performing their duties and holding meetings. These conferences reflected the unity of the Afghan people around the Afghan leadership.

It is my duty to say here that, as Palestinian people and as Arab people, we were extremely pleased when we heard the Soviet Union had given honest help to the Afghan people. On this occasion I salute the Soviet soldier, the Soviet doctor, the Soviet teacher and the Soviet [word indistinct] struggling for their international principles, outside their homeland and away from their families and children, so that right will triumph and for the struggle against imperialism. This Soviet support, which was given at the request of the leadership of the Afghan revolution, frightened imperialism which used to believe that the principle of detente and peaceful coexistence would be at the expense of the peoples. But the friendly Soviet Union made the imperialist circles understand that peaceful coexistence cannot be at the peoples' expense, but it is in the interest of the peoples. A good example of this is what has taken place in Afghanistan.

KANIA REMARKS AT CONGRESS COMMISSION SESSION NOTED

LD171648 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Warsaw, 17 Apr, TASS--A session of the commission for the preparation of the Ninth Extraordinary Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) took place here. The commission considered draft changes in the party rules in the light of the remarks and suggestions that came from various party organizations. Zdzislaw Kurowski, secretary of the PUWP Central Committee, made a report on behalf of the commission's presidium.

Stanislaw Kania, the first secretary of the Central Committee of the PUWP, made a closing speech at the session. He emphasized that the draft amendments and additions to the party rules are being discussed in an unusual situation--in the conditions of the continuing acute crisis, in an atmosphere of serious apprehensions for the country's future. Stanislaw Kania said the party has to act in the conditions of immense difficulties, particularly in the economic sphere.

We are also acting, he stated, in the conditions of many dangers coming both from the forces of anarchy and from other hostile forces. According to Stanislaw Kania, this is having an effect on the atmosphere and contents of the discussion, particularly the one that is connected with preparation for the party's congress.

Stanislaw Kania emphasized that the most topical and important to the entire party are the following questions: what should be the guarantees of prevention of distortions in the central bodies of the party and how to get out of the present crisis effectively. He stressed, in particular, that the PUWP leadership is looking first of all for those factors which serve the deepening and strengthening of inner party democracy. The leadership considers it necessary to restore the unity of the party's ranks, the strength of the party and its ability for effective actions, and the strengthening of its prestige.

RECOGNITION OF 'RURAL SOLIDARITY' ANNOUNCED

LD181116 Moscow TASS in English 1059 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Text] Warsaw, 18 Apr, TASS--The POLISH PRESS AGENCY PAP transmitted a statement by the Government of the Polish People's Republic. From the statement it follows that an agreement was signed on March 30. Under the agreement the founding of a trade union of individual peasants ("Rural Solidarity") is now recognized. The government's statement emphasizes that taken into consideration was a statement by the constituent committee of the trade union of individual peasants, which was submitted to the commission of the Polish Sejm for consideration and which recognizes the role of the PUWP as the guiding force in the building of socialism, as well as the role of the United Peasants' Party in the strengthening of the workers' and peasants' alliance as well as a partner's attitude to the organization of agricultural groups.

The agency reports that the Economic Committee of the Council of Ministers met in Warsaw. The committee considered problems connected with the supply of the market with staple foods as well as with the import of farm products. It was stated that preparation is under way for introducing regulation of the sale of grain products.

SOVIET-POLISH FRIENDSHIP SOIREE HELD IN KIEV

LD171846 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Over 400 activists of Polish-Soviet friendship, representing all the voivodships in the Polish People's Republic, have spent 3 days in the capital of the Ukraine. A crowded soiree of Soviet-Polish friendship was the scene of a meeting with front-ranking production workers, representatives of party, administrative and public organizations, and young people in Kiev. (Kornacki), secretary of the Warsaw section of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society, declared that friendship with the Soviet Union has entered the heart and mind of every honest Pole who is aware of the significance of our countries' alliance for the future of the homeland. The enemies of socialist Poland are trying in vain to drive a wedge in relations between our countries.

POLISH, HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET

LD171116 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Budapest, 16 Apr. TASS--The foreign ministers of Hungary and Poland have stressed the tremendous significance of the Soviet Union's fresh peace initiatives, which were put forward by Leonid Brezhnev at the 26th Congress of the CPSU.

Both sides fully support these Soviet peace proposals, which are a real and effective programme for continuing the policy of detente, strengthening international security, defence of peace and repelling the forces of "cold war", says the communique on the visit to Hungary of Polish Foreign Minister Jozef Czyrek and his talks with the Hungarian foreign minister, Frigyes Puj. The sides have declared for the speediest implementation of the Soviet proposals, for the convocation of a conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe.

The ministers have placed on record with satisfaction that ties between Hungary and Poland are developing along the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, in conformity with the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance and in the spirit of traditional fraternal friendship.

Hungary and Poland, the communique stresses, will further strengthen the alliance and friendship of the socialist countries, actively work for a further deepening of cooperation within the framework of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and CMEA.

The Polish foreign minister was received by first secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Janos Kadar and (?Chairman) of the Hungarian Council of Ministers Gyorgy Lazar.

SUSLOW-LED CPSU DELEGATION RETURNS TO MOSCOW

LD171246 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by Mikhail Suslov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPS Central Committee left Berlin for Moscow today. It had taken part in the 10th SED Congress. The delegation was seen off at Berlin Airport by Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, and other GDR leaders.

The delegation was met at the airport in Moscow by Cernenko, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

LD171538 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Apr 81

We were indignant to hear the news of the attempt on your life. My colleagues and I resolutely condemn this criminal act. In this connection I express to you my unwavering friendly sentiments.

LD172316 Moscow in French to Europe 1730 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Many political commentators in the West draw attention to the fact that, in place of the recent tensions, one can now hear on both sides of the Atlantic some sounds of U.S. approval for France. For example, Washington says that France is a unique West European defender of a truly global policy. The U.S. capital is very appreciative of the military efforts made by France. Indeed, France comes out on top in the old continent for the rate at which its military expenditure is growing. The Africa policy pursued by Paris is also greeted with sympathy by Washington. In its turn, official Paris closes its eyes to the support which the United States is giving to the anti-people's junta in El Salvador.

So, from all appearances, everything is going marvelously. However, the officially presented easing of relations between France and the United States cannot conceal the economic and commercial conflict which exists between the French and American monopolies, of which the French workers are the first victims.

Competition between French and American monopolies is becoming more and more acrimonious. For example, last year the first shots in a trade war were fired from both sides of the Atlantic. The conflict arises from the particular fact that France has developed a chronic deficit in the balance of its trade with the United States, and this is getting worse. In 1979 it doubled by comparison with 1978, to reach the astronomical sum of F14 billion. Efforts to lessen this imbalance have not succeeded. This sinister aspect of French-U.S. relations is generally concealed by the bourgeois press, which prefers to write about the successes of French companies on the American Continent. Nevertheless, the infiltration by French companies into the U.S. market and the alarming expansion of U.S. capital in France have different dimensions. French capital is in no shape to swallow up the giants on the other side of the Atlantic, while on the other hand American capital can indeed threaten the economic independence of France. It is noted that the papers praise those companies which open up abroad, where they can make superprofits, while in France, it is foreign companies that make vast profits, and one witnesses massive sackings of workers and French concerns getting new American masters. The manifest enslavement of the French economy by American capitalism does not contribute to the preservation of national sovereignty because it makes France vulnerable not only from the economic but also from the political viewpoint. The bourgeois press in France tries to cover this up.

Foreign control of French industry, especially by America, in recent years has reached 52 percent in the petroleum industry, 32 percent in electronics, 24 percent in chemicals, 38 percent in pharmaceuticals, 28 percent in nonferrous metals and 17 percent in iron and steel. It is no secret that the losers in all this are the French workers. The Franco-American economic duel continues, but nevertheless the situation is becoming increasingly favorable for the United States.

It is not merely because of the technological backwardness of France in several branches of industry but also because in the conflict with their rivals, the American monopolies are banking to an ever greater extent on the political and military muscle of the United States and have no hesitation in resorting to the power of the United States as a super-power. The way the American oil monopolies play the rules of the game with regard to their French and other Western rivals, including over oil resources in the Middle East--a vital zone of interest to the United States--proves all this. Many clear-thinking journalists in France are asking themselves if Washington's good will toward France is not going to turn out to be the kiss of Judas.

FRENCH RECEPTION OF MME SHCHARANSKIY SCORED

LD171020 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1758 GMT 16 Apr 81

[TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov commentary: "Swindler on Tour"]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Apr (TASS)--What, Mme Shcharanskiy again!--The astonished French reader is justified in exclaiming. Yes, once again. As can be seen from an AFP report, this person is not only continuing to get practice in concocting anti-Soviet inventions, but has even been received by high officials in Paris, including the minister of foreign affairs.

The astonishment of the French when they read this "news item" can be completely understood. It is well known that this is not the first time Shcharanskiy has specialized in anti-Soviet slander. It is also well known that the more the Western, and particularly Zionist, propaganda organs, which are susceptible to rotten sensationalism, create a rumpus around her, the more facts which show the true picture of "this defender of human rights" float to the surface.

First, it has been established that Mmr Shcharanskiy is not a Schcharanskiy at all but a certain Siglitz. Second, it has been established that this madame, who poses as the wife of the well-known Shcharanskiy and who was convicted by a Soviet court as far back as 1978 for engaging in activities hostile to the Soviet state, is in fact not married and has never been married to Shcharanskiy. This woman, who left the Soviet Union some years ago and swiftly changed her name while in the West, is simply a swindler specializing in deliberate slander against the Soviet Union in order to attract attention to her own more dubious self.

The noise surrounding the adventure seeking anti-Soviet female became noticeably less after all this had been revealed. However, her name is once again being bandied about. Well, the self-appointed wife of Shcharanskiy, who is being actively used by Western Zionist centers, is not lacking in impudence and stubbornness. The fact that she has dreamed up this latest anti-Soviet tour in Paris is not surprising. What is curious is why officials--and we repeat! quite highly-placed people--receive her in their offices? It seems quite obvious that associating with a notorious swindler does not enhance their image. This is putting it mildly.

'PROVOCATIVE' NATURE OF NATO EXERCISES RAPPED

LD172338 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1920 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Brussels, 17 Apr (TASS)--Large-scale exercises of NATO land, air and naval forces are continuing in various parts of Western Europe. Three days of air force maneuvers took place over British territory, codenamed "Priory 1-81," they included combat aircraft of the United States, Canada, Britain and other countries.

As is being noted by observers, the organizers of the exercises lent them a clearly provocative character from the very beginning by declaring their main aim to be the "defence of British territory against an imaginary "enemy from the East."

The principle "military operations" were mounted on the country's east coast as well as in areas where British and American military airfields are located. At the same time, the NATO military command announced that the bloc's Rapid Deployment Force is to hold its next exercise in the northeastern part of Italy from 27 April to May 18. A total of 3,000 officers and men drawn from the armed forces of Belgium, Italy, Britain and the United States are to take part. According to Western news agency reports, the purpose of the maneuver is to "exercise the deployment of European mobile forces under the alliance's command."

Public opinion in Western Europe is voicing growing concern over these militaristic demonstrations, noting that they totally contradict the interests of security and detente on the continent.

SOVIET-LUXEMBOURG CONSULTATIONS HELD IN MOSCOW

LD171452 Moscow TASS in English 1345 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 17 Apr, TASS--Political consultations have been held at the USSR Foreign Ministry between USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Kovalev and Luxembourg Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Paul Helminger. They had a useful exchange of (?views) on some topical international issues as well as bilateral relations. Taking part in the consultations were USSR Ambassador to Luxembourg Kamo Udumyan, member of the Collegium of the USSR Foreign Ministry Anatoliy Adamishin and Ambassador of Luxembourg to Moscow Paul Reuter.

DEPUTY PREMIER MEETS FRG BUSINESS DELEGATION

LD171842 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 17 Apr, TASS--The Soviet Union is seeking to extend mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation with West Germany, said Leonid Kostandov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, today when he met a delegation of West German industrialists and financiers. The delegation includes managers and directors of the leading companies producing plant for extracting, hauling, processing and utilizing coal, oil and gas. The delegation has just returned to Moscow after a ten-day tour of industrial centres in Siberia and the Urals.

The development of relations between the USSR and West Germany has become an important factor in creating an atmosphere of stability and detente in Europe, Leonid Kostandov stressed. The achievements of bilateral cooperation are a result of the Moscow treaty, a result of our common desire for extending mutually beneficial contacts. During the past ten years Soviet-West German trade has grown from a value of 3,000 million marks to 15,000 million marks, with the annual increment averaging 20 per cent. The minister named several major projects in which the Soviet side would like West German companies to take part. He mentioned, in particular, the production of liquefied fuel from the coal of the Kanak-Achinsk fields, the extraction of sulphur from natural gas at a deposit near Astrakhan and the mining of oil in the Caspian. Leonid Kostandov characterised the project for building a gas pipeline linking the Yamal Peninsula with the western border of the USSR in exchange for gas supplies to West European countries as a future "contract of the century". That is why, he considered, special commercial and financial terms should be worked out for carrying through this project.

The leader of the West German industrial and financial delegation, Erwin Esel, president of the Bavarian West Germany--USSR Friendship Society, voiced the West German business community's readiness to develop extensive cooperation with the Soviet Union, above all in the field of energy.

TYSSOVSKIY VIEWS BAKER, AS-SADAT COMMENTS IN CAIRO

LD182216 Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Yuriy Tyssovskiy commentary: "Anti-Soviet Duo in Cairo"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Apr, TASS--According to the UPI news agency, President as-Sadat stated at a press conference that it is the Soviet Union, and not Israel, that is the main threat to security in the Middle East. The press conference was given jointly with Senator Howard Baker, the leader of the Republican majority in U.S. Congress, who is now in Cairo.

A paragraph taken from yesterday's issue of the Egyptian regime's semi-official newspaper AL-AHRAM says that none of the Middle Eastern countries, except Israel, shares the U.S. opinion that the main problem of the region is in the Soviet threat.

Is it a contradiction? No, it is not. A lack of due coordination rather. Apparently some sluggish bureaucrat from the Information Ministry failed to notify the editors of the AL-AHRAM about the opinion of the President's closest entourage on this question. Hence the confusion, since in recent years Egypt sings only to U.S. piping. And once Howard Baker set a certain tone at the press conference, one could suppose in advance that it would be picked up by his interlocutor. This was exactly the case.

It is difficult to describe the tone in any other way than irresponsible, to say the least, particularly when such a high-ranking representative of U.S. Congress adheres to it. Really, when a person in front of a host of journalists earnestly asserts that the USSR poses a tremendous danger to world peace, one willy-nilly comes to doubt either the soberness of his thinking or, to put it wildly, the presence of elementary honesty. Mr Baker has been to Moscow and he undoubtedly knows about the USSR's numerous peace initiatives aimed at easing tension in practically all the "hot spots" of our planet, including that in the Middle East, in the Persian Gulf area, and the Indian Ocean. As-Sadat knows that, too. Nevertheless they both resorted to gross distortions of the goals of the political course of the USSR. As-Sadat, however, then and there let the cat out of the bag by saying that he intended to ask for new batches of modern weapons from Washington. Such requests, as practice shows, are accompanied with a spiral of anti-Soviet slander.

In this question, too, both the Egyptian president and his U.S. guest deliberately shut their eyes to facts which are known to be a stubborn thing. Who connives at [as received] the terrorist state of Israel which is conducting a war against the Arabs? Under the patronage of Washington and with Cairo's connivance, Tel Aviv pursues a course towards annexation of Arab lands and refuses to respect the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine. Where are the roots of tension in the Middle East, which are of concern to all Arab states, except Egypt and, possibly, Oman?

The answer is known: In U.S. attempts to implant its military bases around the Near and Middle East. And what about the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force, a battalion of which has already held a "limbering up" exercise on Egyptian soil? And what about the Pentagon's piratic action against Iran, for the accomplishment of which Egyptian airfields were obligingly provided? The press conference in Cairo showed that they on the banks of the Potomac and the Nile are prepared to resort to provocative inventions for the purposes of justifying the U.S. hegemonistic policy, of which the heightening of tension in this already explosive [word indistinct] under the cover of the trite myth about so-called "Soviet threat" has been chosen in Washington as a method.

RPP REPORTS ON OPPOSITION TO AS-SADAT REGIME

LD172316 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 13 Apr 81

[Unattributed "talk"]

[Text] In Aden, delegates of Arab progressive youth organizations have asked the As-Sadat regime to immediately release Egyptian nationalists from jail. In a communique to this effect, they stressed that the Egyptian authorities have recently arrested approximately 70 people from the progressive opposition. The communique says that the fresh hostile campaign against the democratic forces in Egypt has been launched by the authorities in a period in which the As-Sadat regime finds itself in stifling isolation both in its own country and the international arena. Furthermore, as a result of its open-door policy, the social and economic crisis has become more acute and resistance to the regime has grown more extensive on the part of all the nationalist forces.

In these conditions, the authorities are cruelly repressing the nationalists, stifling the democratic rights and liberties of the citizens and savagely suppressing any manifestation of discontent over the antipeople line taken by As-Sadat.

It should be mentioned that the Egyptian authorities are camouflaging police repression by bragging about the existence of what they claim to be complete democracy in the country. The deputy prime minister for People's Assembly Affairs, Fikri 'Ubayd, claims that everybody in Egypt has complete freedom to express his views and that there exist in the country opposition parties which freely criticize the government in their papers and political meetings.

But the democratic nationalist forces in Egypt have a completely different view. Mr (Khalid Muhyi ad-Din), secretary general of the Nationalist Progressive Unionist Bloc Party, says, for instance, that no one can deny that Egypt is now living in an atmosphere of [words indistinct] and in these circumstances the ruling National Democratic Party, or more precisely Anwar as-Sadat, the president of the republic and chairman of the party, holds complete power. (Khalid Muhyi ad-Din) emphasizes that the authorities have for a number of years been conducting a large-scale campaign of encroachment on the democracy and liberties of Egyptian citizens.

One of the achievements of As-Sadatist democracy last year was the promulgation of a shameful law which aroused general anger and strong resistance on the part of lawyers, judges associations and many well-known Egyptian men of law. The law was meant to shut the mouths of all those who oppose As-Sadat. Investigations of anyone breaking the law, for instance, are not conducted by the general prosecutor or investigating judges, but by persons chosen by the so-called socialist general prosecutor who is appointed by As-Sadat personally. A consultative council was also set up in the country, 40 of the members of which were chosen from among the members of the ruling National Socialist Party. The remaining 70 were appointed by As-Sadat personally.

Apart from issuing recommendations, this new organ has a more profound mission: controlling the activity of all the parties and press. The As-Sadatist regime has thus formed a new element to put pressure on the opposition and found another way to attack the democratic liberties of the working men.

It is worth mentioning that stringent measures are being taken against the press. The As-Sadatist regime laid down amendments to the press law which makes state control over the press more cruel. It consists of 238 clauses which cover practically all the aspects of daily activity of the press bodies and individual newsmen.

The well-known Egyptian writer 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Sharqawi believes that the objective of all this is to encroach on rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the country. For his part, (Fu'ad Nuzhi), member of the leadership of the opposition Socialist Labor Party, stresses that the laws promulgated in the past few years, particularly the amendments to the press law, are indicative of the government's feverish drive to increase limits on the freedom of the press in particular and political activity in general.

Yet all these facts have been ignored by His Excellency Fikri 'Ubayd who brags about the existence of complete democracy in the country. But wide sections of the Egyptian public do not agree with him. The numbers of Egyptians who oppose the regime and demand real democratic rights in deeds, not in words, are on the increase.

KUVALDIN ON RENEWAL OF SUDANESE-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

LD172048 Moscow TASS in English 1644 GMT 17 Apr 81

["Serving the Interests of Imperialism"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Apr, TASS--TASS commentator Georgiy Kuvaldin writes: Diplomatic relations between Sudan and Egypt have been restored in full. It is reported from Khartoum that the new Egyptian ambassador to Sudan presented his credentials yesterday to President Numayri. Earlier the Sudanese ambassador had been accredited in Cairo. Sudan has taken this step at a time when the overwhelming majority of the Arab countries continue to boycott the As-Sadat regime, which has betrayed the interests of the Arabs' struggle and actually become an instrument of imperialist policy in the region.

It is symptomatic that the Sudanese-Egyptian rapprochement was predated by several pro-imperialist and anti-Soviet statements of the Sudanese leader. For instance, the Arab countries strongly denounced Numayri's intention to let the U.S. set up its military bases on Sudan territory and to expand its military and political presence both in the country as a whole and among the Sudanese Armed Forces in particular. Khartoum's attempts to rationalize its policy on the basis of the pretext of the notorious Soviet threat have also caused indignation among the Arabs. There is little doubt that the anti-Soviet statements of the Sudanese leaders play into the hands of the U.S., which is trying to camouflage its aggressive and subversive objectives in the region and to convince the Arabs that the main threat to them is posed by the Soviet Union.

This was the main purpose of the recent visit of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig to the Middle East. The voyage of the American emissary was a failure, but Khartoum, as developments indicate, has not learned its lesson.

The present course of the Sudanese leaders consists of connivance with imperialist plans and abandonment of the Arabs' struggle against Israeli aggression and for an early and just settlement of the Palestinian problem. This causes damage to the Arabs' struggle and contravenes the vital interests of the Sudanese people themselves.

JORDANIAN MINISTER STRESSES USSR ROLE IN PEACE

LD181549 Moscow TASS in English 1523 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Text] Beirut, 18 Apr, TASS--Speaking in an interview with the Lebanese weekly AN-NAHIR AL-ARABI WAD-DWALI, the minister of foreign affairs of Jordan, Marwan al-Qasim, said that the Palestinian problem was the core of the Middle East conflict. He added that any attempt to solve the problem without due regard for that reality would fail to settle the conflict or attain stability in the region. Marwan al-Qasim said that on the issue of the Middle East settlement Jordan came out in favour of a complete withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and in favour of guaranteeing the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

The minister stressed it was essential that the Soviet Union take part in the efforts to establish a just and durable peace in the region. He said that the Soviet Union had taken part in different international meetings with a view to attaining a just and comprehensive settlement of the conflict in the region. He pointed out that the Soviet Union was the permanent member of the UN Security Council and maintained relations with the countries of the region. All this made the Soviet Union's role in attaining and ensuring peace both important and indispensable. The minister reaffirmed that the Palestine Liberation Organization was the side which represented the rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

BENEFITS OF SOVIET AID TO IRAQI ECONOMY NOTED

LD182300 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1730 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Unattributed Commentary]

[Text] The 11th session of the Soviet-Iraqi Standing Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation will open in Baghdad on 19 April. The Soviet delegation will be headed by Semen Skachkov, chairman of the State Committee for Economic Relations, and the Iraqi delegation by Tahir at-Tawfiq, minister of industry and minerals. The committee will discuss the results of the work of the subcommittees and the progress of the corporation in the building of basic installations since its last session in April 1980. The two sides will also look into the prospects of further development of mutually-advantageous Soviet-Iraqi economic and technical cooperation conducted on an equal footing.

In this respect, our commentator writes: The Soviet Union has been extending aid to Iraq to strengthen its economy since 1959 when the first treaty of cooperation was signed between our two countries. Since then the volume of cooperation has increased tenfold, and dozens of important projects have been commissioned in various domains. This helped in the consolidation of the economic independence of Iraq and in the development of its national economy. Of special importance to Iraq is cooperation in the field of oil which has created conditions for the elimination of control by foreign oil monopolies and for the creation of a national oil industry. Oilfields have been built in Iraq with Soviet aid which have increased the oil production capacity in the country by 25 percent. Furthermore, Soviet experts have laid down a scientifically-based program for the comprehensive development of the oil and gas industry in Iraq for the period up to 1986. They have also made plans for the period up to 1996.

The most advanced methods of oil production continue to be applied. These are the same methods used on a large scale in the Soviet Union which make it possible to extract oil from extreme depths. Prospecting work also continues, and preparations are underway for the building of new large oilfields. It is worth noting that the role played by Soviet aid in developing power production in Iraq is a large one.

In the context of cooperation between our two countries, large electrothermic stations have been built in An-Nasiriyah together with large electrohydraulic station in Dukan and the electrothermic station in An-Najibiyan. Cooperation also continues in the construction of an electrohydraulic station in Hadithah on the Euphrates River. And, thanks to the efforts of Iraqi and Soviet experts, plants have been commissioned for the first time in Iraq for the production of electrical and agricultural equipment, glassware, cement, antibiotics and medical drugs, cotton products, textiles and canned foods. These plants have made it possible to improve supplies of goods to the domestic market and decrease imports of ready-made goods. A number of industrial goods have also begun to be produced.

The scope of Soviet-Iraqi cooperation further extends to the domain of improvement of agriculture and land reclamation. The harnessing of the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates by constructing canals from Tharthar Lake to those rivers, together with the Hadithah water reservoir, will provide for the irrigation of no less than an additional 600,000 to 650,000 hectares of land--that is, some 25 percent of the total irrigated land at the present time. Furthermore, water supplies for 1 million hectares of land are being improved. The important railway line between Baghdad and Basra Port has also been built with Soviet assistance. Oil pipelines have been laid along a distance of 340 km, and a number of radio transmitters and telegraphic and telephonic communications installations have been built.

Soviet organizations also attach great importance to training competent Iraqi personnel. Thousands of competent workers were directly trained in the course of the construction of cooperation projects. Iraqi citizens are also attending Soviet institutes.

In the context of cooperation between the two countries, 12 centers of education were built in Iraq where more than 4,500 students have become experts in the oil and petrochemical industries and in the machine-building textiles and other industrial sectors.

No doubt, the new agreements which will be concluded during the meeting of the Soviet-Iraqi committee will help to deepen and expand economic and technical cooperation in the spirit of the treaty of friendship between the two countries.

CORRESPONDENT INTERVIEWS DFJP LEADER HAWATIMAH

LD181654 Moscow TASS in English 1530 GMT 18 Apr 81

[By TASS correspondent A. Vlasov]

[Text] Damascus, 18 Apr. TASS--The 15th session of the National Council of Palestine is continuing its work here. To work out decisions on concrete issues, its participants have set up specialised commissions: political, military, for the occupied territories, finances, statutes, social affairs and education.

Commenting on the work of the current session, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Nayif Hawatimah, said in an interview with the TASS correspondent that the forum of the Palestinian people gathered in difficult political conditions. The United States, Israel and Arab reactionaries are seeking to divert the Palestinian and other Arab peoples from the chief task--struggle against Israeli aggression--by prattling about the non-existent "Soviet threat." In other words, they want to tear the national liberation forces away from their most faithful and consistent ally--the Soviet Union.

Nayif Hawatimah said that the current session of the National Council of Palestine is called upon to reaffirm the need to struggle against the Camp David deal and various "initiatives," the authors of which, following in the wake of the U.S. interests, are trying to draw certain Arab circles for talks with Israel without the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people--the PLO.

Nayif Hawatimah said that we will struggle for the Middle East settlement on the principles advanced by Leonid Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress. We want the National Council of Palestine to adopt a decision in support of the Soviet initiatives. These initiatives correspond to the spirit of the UN decisions and equip the PLO with an effective means to counter reactionary settlement plans, he stressed.

Nayif Hawatimah said in conclusion that the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine favours the expansion of the representation of all Palestinian organisations in the leading bodies of the National Council, increase in the effectiveness of their activities. The Democratic Front calls for the activation of the Palestinian people's front operating in the occupied territories.

FRONTLINE STATES, S. AFRICA REBUFF CROCKER

LD180652 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2332 GMT 17 Apr 81

["Crocker Gets a Dressing Down"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 18 Apr (TASS)--TASS observer Nikolay Baratov writes:

Chester Crocker, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, is clearly not having much luck with his tour of Africa. The leaders of Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] decisively rejected the U.S. administration's policy in southern Africa as pro-racist and contrary to the interests of African peoples at a meeting in Luanda on Wednesday. This is logical, but Washington's emissary also suffered an unexpected affront in a "friendly state"--as the White House now calls the domain of apartheid--the Republic of South Africa [RSA].

RSA Prime Minister Pieter Botha stated his dissatisfaction with Crocker's visit on Thursday in an interview for the Johannesburg STAR, and did not want to meet the U.S. assistant secretary of state during his stay in Pretoria.

How did the State Department representative manage to annoy the racist prime minister? Above all, by his "too soft" position toward SWAPO. "We do not like SWAPO," Pieter Botha said. Washington does not like SWAPO either. But they cannot do anything--SWAPO has been recognized by free Africa and by the world community to be the sole legal representative of the Namibian people. That is why C. Crocker had to refrain from using abusive language against SWAPO during his trip to Africa and this fact immediately annoyed Pretoria.

In addition, Botha blamed Crocker for the scandal that took place during a recent visit to the United States by a delegation of senior RSA army and intelligence service officers. This visit stirred up a storm of indignation in African countries and forced Washington to undertake a number of clumsy and unsuccessful attempts to refute the fact of increased military cooperation between the United States and the RSA.

Botha is now getting his own back for the embarrassment of his generals. He is not in the least afraid of provoking Washington's anger--the economic and strategic interests which have linked the United States with its "friends" and "allies" from the racist RSA are too great.

DOLGOV ON REACTION TO U.S. POLICY ON NAMIBIA

LD172036 Moscow in French to Africa 1700 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Andrey Dolgov commentary]

[Text] The leaders of Angola, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Botswana, Zambia and Tanzania have ended their conference in the Angolan capital, Luanda. The communique issued after the meeting resolutely condemns the U.S. plans to develop cooperation with the Republic of South Africa in order to delay the independence of Namibia and to destabilize the legitimate governments of sovereign states in southern Africa.

The participants in the conference renewed their total and unconditional support of the SWAPO and called on the international community to increase aid to this sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Here is a commentary by Andrey Dolgov:

If one adds to this the fact that the nonaligned countries are holding a conference on Namibia in the Algerian capital, it becomes quite clear that the Namibian problem has entered a decisive stage. Everything leads one to believe that the question now is whether the Namibian people will obtain freedom through negotiated, peaceful means or whether they will continue the fight with weapons in hand.

The African and nonaligned states are trying to find a peaceful solution just as the United States claims it wants to do. However, judging by the statements made by Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker during his African tour and in his talks with the Pretoria government, the positions of the parties are diametrically opposed. The African countries and SWAPO want to implement the UN plan on Namibia which consists of a cease-fire, the release of political prisoners, free elections sponsored by the United Nations and the adoption by the constituent assembly of a national constitution. However, it is the very implementation of the UN plan which frightens the Pretoria rulers [words indistinct].

The so-called new proposals enable the South African invaders to say that their stand is backed by the United States. They are trying their best to question the legality of the UN decision to recognize the SWAPO as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people and to bring to the talks as equal partners their puppets to whom they are trying to pass power in the country. It is, in other words, a case of reducing to nothing the long and courageous struggle of the Namibian patriots and depriving them of the right to represent their people.

Certainly, neither the African countries nor the SWAPO intend to yield to imperialist and racist blackmail, a fact clearly stated to Crocker in the African capitals he visited. This was also emphasized at the Luanda conference.

The African and nonaligned countries also clearly defined their attitude in case of a refusal by the Western powers to pressure the Republic of South Africa on refusal by the latter to accept the UN plan. They intend to work to secure comprehensive economic sanctions against the South African regime and to increase their aid, particularly military aid, to the SWAPO patriots.

KOMMUNIST INTERVIEWS MADAGASCAR INDEPENDENCE LEADER

LD181422 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Text] Moscow, 18 Apr, TASS--"I was greatly impressed by the fact that the guidelines for the social and economic development of the USSR elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee are submitted for a nation-wide discussion and that each citizen expresses his point of view and makes critical remarks," said Gisele Rabesahala, general secretary of the Party of Congress of the Independence of Madagascar. She was speaking in an interview with the journal KOMMUNIST published by the CPSU Central Committee. Gisele Rabesahala was staying in Moscow as a guest of the 26th CPSU Congress. In her interview she shared her impressions about the work of the forum. "This is an extremely important form of participation of the masses in running the affairs of state," she stressed. "We the members of the Party of Congress of the Independence of Madagascar, remember well Lenin's idea that a state can be strong only when the people knew about everything that is happening in the country, and that politics should not be the domain of a small group of individuals. For if the people are ill-informed, well-informed enemies can manipulate the public opinion in their own interests."

"Or, take for example another fact, when Leonid Brezhnev spoke of the significance of letters of common workers, both members and non-members of the party, have for the party work, I think that this is very important. For this means there is contact with the masses. Let me recall that Lenin believed and always stressed that not a single letter should be left without an answer, for the working people do not write letters for pleasure, but because they trust us. Letters are a form of expressing confidence."

Gisele Rabesahala expressed disquiet over the militarization of the Indian Ocean.

"Today all of us, the whole of the world public, are gravely concerned over the growth of tension in the Indian Ocean, over the militarization of the region, the expansion of the network of military bases of imperialism which now are scattered over nearly the whole of the Indian Ocean. And, of course, when we speak about the Indian Ocean, we understand that its status concerns not only the coastal states. Security or militarization of the Indian Ocean is a source of apprehension for all the countries which make use of its shipping routes, and the Indian Ocean has since time immemorial been one of the main arteries for the merchant marines of all the continents. That is why our party has always met with great interest the Soviet Union's proposals concerning the Indian Ocean."

"Speaking about the military bases, about international tension caused by the scheming of imperialism we can say that Africa today is one of the main objects of the aggressive policy of imperialism. Africa has vast natural resources which the multinational monopolies are trying to take hold of in pursuit of profits. At the same time there are countries of socialist orientation in Africa. These countries give undiminishing support to the fighters for national liberation in the south of Africa, in the Sahara and other parts of the continent. Thus, we see that life itself has inseparably united the struggle for peace, the struggle for national liberation, the struggle for freedom and social progress."

LD201056 Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 20 Apr 81

A public meeting was held at the Karl Marx theatre in Havana. It was addressed by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, chairman of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic. He stressed that the events at Playa Giron demonstrated the strength of a people which knows well for what it fights and what it defends. The speaker highly assessed the fraternal internationalist help given by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries which have never left Cuba alone at an hour of trial throughout the years of people's government and which are giving it all-round assistance in building socialism.

CHIGIR COMMENTARY HITS U.S. 'ANTI-CUBAN CAMPAIGN'

[By TASS political observer Nikolay Chigir: "With a Confident Stride"--TASS headline]

Never before did U.S. expansionist policy in Latin America meet with such powerful resistance as in Cuba at that time. The unsurpassed heroism of the Cuban people, its complete devotion to the cause of the revolution and to the ideals of socialism had become an unconquerable wall for the aggressors. Working out plans for the armed intervention against Cuba, Washington did not take into account yet another very important factor--the powerful worldwide movement of solidarity with revolutionary Cuba, the broad support shown to it by the Soviet Union and the socialist community as a whole.

It would appear that in the past 20 years those circles in the United States which are experiencing pathological hatred toward socialist Cuba ought to have learned the necessary lesson both from their defeat at Playa Giron and from the failures of their subsequent anti-Cuban provocations. However, as is evident, they have not learned anything.

At present, the American administration is fanning the latest malicious anti-Cuban campaign. Unconcealed threats directed at Cuba are emanating incessantly from Washington. Reports have appeared in the U.S. press of a so-called anti-Cuban plan put forward by U.S. Secretary of State Haig, which includes a whole gamut of interventionist acts--from economic "sanctions" to the use of military force. The United States, as before, is basing its unceasing hostile activity against Cuba on the practice of international terrorism as the main instrument for exporting counterrevolution. At the same time it is attempting to put together a new anti-Cuban bloc of Latin American countries with reactionary dictatorial regimes and to set up a so-called "inter-American" cover for the adventures which it is preparing against Cuba.

No matter how the ruling U.S. circles excel themselves in kindling an anti-Cuban psychosis, they are in no position to turn Cuba from its chosen path. Its people, closely knit around the Communist Party and its Central Committee, led by Comrade Fidel Castro, is confidently constructing a socialist society and is at the same time strengthening the defense capability of the country in order to give a rebuff to any intervention. On the side of Cuba is the Soviet Union and the whole world of socialism, along with the solidarity of all progressive mankind.

ECONOMIC SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CUBA

LD181644 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0605 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Text] Havana, 18 Apr (TASS)--A protocol was signed at the conclusion of the 11th session of the intergovernmental Soviet-Cuban Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation which was held in Havana from 13 to 17 April.

The document was signed by Konstantin Katushev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba. They also signed an agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Cuba for 1981-85. Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, was present at the signing ceremony.

Speaking at the solemn ceremony, Konstantin Katushev and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez stressed the firm bonds of brotherhood and friendship that unite the peoples, governments and communist parties of both countries and the diverse and fruitful Soviet-Cuban cooperation.

During the work of the 11th session of the intergovernmental Soviet-Cuban Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, questions were examined concerning mutual trade during the past 5-year plan as were measures to ensure the fulfillment of pledges for trade turnover in 1981. Great attention was given to an analysis of the development of power engineering and the textile industry in Cuba and to questions of marine transportation between the two countries. The Soviet and Cuban delegations discussed the progress achieved in carrying out work to draw up a general plan for the development of the Cuban economy up to the year 2000 with regard to economic cooperation, specialization and integration between the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Further Reportage

For Havana radio reports on the arrival and activities of the Soviet delegation to the 11th session of the Cuban-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, headed by Konstantin Katushev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, see the Cuba section of the 17 April and subsequent issues of the Latin America DAILY REPORT. The signing of the protocol for 1981-85, including a credit agreement, is reported on page Q 11 of the 20 April DAILY REPORT.

PRC'S ZHANG WENJIN VISIT TO CHILE EXAMINED

LD172100 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1415 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (TASS)--The official visit by PRC Deputy Foreign Minister Zhang Wenjin to Chile is fresh evidence of strengthening of the "Beijing-Santiago" axis. It is taking place under the banner of anti-Sovietism, further consolidation of ties between the Chinese hegemonists and the Chilean military-fascist regime in the political, economic and military spheres with the use of the latter for Chinese penetration into Latin America.

All these issues were discussed in detail by the Chinese emissary with Pinochet, the head of the regime, and other Chilean official representatives.

The extreme rightwing newspaper MERCURIO, which has supported the dictatorship from the day of the coup, writes that relations between the two countries will rise to a new and high level as a result of the Chinese deputy minister's visit. This visit, it stresses, is an important step in "improving bilateral relations", and is "an expression of the policy of even greater rapprochement between China and Chile and of their joint action in international organizations".

"Political mutual understanding," the paper notes, will come about thanks to exchange of opinions "on problems in common" which both countries encounter in the international arena.

As is known, the Beijing leadership constantly supports the fascist Pinochet dictatorship, and is stepping up its economic, financial and military aid to the reactionary junta.

Chinese-Chilean ties are expanding year by year. In the past 3 years alone, trade turnover between those countries has grown by more than 400 percent. Last year it totalled \$134 million, as compared with \$30 million in 1977. China has given the junta a helping hand when the latter was unable, because of its international isolation, to sell its copper on the international market. Apart from copper, saltpeter, wood-pulp and timber are also taken in exchange for arms which are used for repression, and also for textiles and certain other goods.

The criminal conspiracy behind the backs of the Chilean people and directed against their interests is expanding. This is the aim served by the trip to Chile by Beijing's emissary.

CSA'S GARMASH REVIEWS QUARTERLY INDUSTRIAL RESULTS

LD181748 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 Apr 81

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration [CSA] has published the results of the fulfillment of the state plan by USSR industry in the first quarter of 1981. Here is what Vitaliy Ivanovich Garmash, deputy chief of an administration of the USSR CSA, said in a conversation with our correspondent Dmitry Parshikov:

[Begin recording] [Garmash] Our industry has overfulfilled the plan for the first quarter as regards the overall volume of production, the growth of labor productivity and the manufacture of major types of products. All the union republics and industrial ministries except for the Ministry of Power Machine Building have fulfilled the plan. The overall volume of industrial production has increased by 3.1 percent and the average daily production of output has increased by 4.5 percent. Labor productivity has grown by 2.4 percent in this period. As we all know, raising labor productivity is a major indicator for production efficiency. The plan for the first quarter was overfulfilled as regards this indicator and what is very important is the fact that thanks to this factor more than three-quarters of the increment in industrial production has been achieved. And in such leading industries as heavy and transport machine building, the electrical equipment industry, chemical and petroleum machine building, instrument making, tractor and agricultural machine building and the light industry, all or almost all, the increment in industrial output has been obtained thanks to increasing labor productivity. I stress thanks to increasing labor productivity and not thanks to an increase in the number of workers. And this in itself is an indicator for the intensification of output. And here are several figures depicting the quality of output. The production of output of a superior category of quality, that is output which is up to the best Soviet and foreign standards, went up considerably and now more than 15 percent of the total output is made up of superior quality output.

[Question] Vitaliy Ivanovich, what progressive improvements would you say took place in the first year of the new 5-year plan period as regards the development of industry?

[Answer] Accelerated development rates have been secured in the gas industry, in industries providing services for the foodstuff complex, in the production of mineral fertilizers, in agricultural machine building, in the production of fodder microbiological protein and in engineering industries which directly affect the rate of scientific-technical progress in the national economy, that is, instrument making, radio electronics, the production of computers and in the production of equipment with digital program control.

[Question] And another question, Vitaliy Ivanovich, please. What shortcomings came to the surface during the implementation of the plan of the first quarter?

[Answer] Shortcomings and reserves in the development of the national economy were mentioned in detail at the 26th CPSU Congress which pointed to the violation of plan discipline, delivery discipline, to shortcomings in planning, in supplying the production industries with materials and technical equipment and in managing the economy. Unfortunately, some of the above also applied to the first quarter of the current year. Tasks have not been fulfilled as regards the manufacture of a number of important types of industrial output earmarked both for production and technical development and for consumer goods. Associations of a number of ministries, in particular of the power machine building industry, the coal industry, the pulp and paper industry, and timber and wood processing industry and the light industry did not fully ensure deliveries of output in accordance with contracts and orders. There are cases when commissioned capacities take a long time to be mastered, when equipment is not used fully and when working time is lost. It is indicative that during the socialist competition for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan period labor collectives are more intensively eliminating losses and strengthening state plan discipline. This is in accordance with the tasks which are outlined in the decisions of the congress and in "The Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1981-85 and for the Period Through 1990." [end recording]

RADIO REPORTS DEVELOPMENTS FOR 16-19 APRIL

LD180342/LD200120 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 16-19 April. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

16 April

A new model irrigation system has been adopted south of Lake Balkhash. Irrigated fields now cover 2 million hectares in Kazakhstan. At the same time the filling of all reservoirs has been completed in the republic. In the new 5-year period an increase in the average annual production of agricultural produce in Kazakhstan of 11-13 percent is planned. Further development of irrigation is needed to implement this plan. In the republic from 1981-85 it is planned to bring into use another 400,000 hectares of irrigated land. Tadzhik farms are carrying out sowing work at a fast pace. All the republic's oblasti and rayons with the exception of the Pamirarea have completed the sowing of wheat, barely and oats. Spring crops have already been sown in the republic on 73 percent of the allotted area.

17 April

The summer irrigation season has begun in Kirgizia. During the current 5-year period another 75,000 hectares of land will be brought under irrigation and 500,000 hectares of mountain pastures will be connected with water resources. (0600 GMT)

Sugar beet has been sown on 1 million hectares in the Ukraine which is over half the area allocated to this crop. The pledge is to sell no less than 50.5 million tons to the state. (0730 GMT)

Spring fieldwork has begun in Orlovskaya Oblast. Harrowing of the sown areas of winter crops, perennial grasses and plowland is underway here. (1200 GMT)

Spring crop sowing is proceeding at a fast pace in the RSFSR. According to current figures, spring crops occupied 2.3 million hectares by mid-April. This is almost three times as much as at the same time last year. The northern border of sowing is now in southern Lipetskaya, Bryanskaya and Volgogradskaya Oblast. Mass work is in progress in a number of Far Eastern regions. (1800 GMT)

18 April

Mass sowing is in progress in Belorussia. Spring this year is somewhat earlier than usual, and dry. Work is well organized. Sowing of early grain and grasses has been completed on the drained peat-bogs. This year more than 80 percent of the sown area on improved land in the republic is given over to grain crops and grasses. Average annual yield of grain in these areas last 5-year plan was much higher, and deep cultivation of the soil is unnecessary. (0100 GMT)

Semipalatinskaya Oblast in Kazakhstan has begun sowing early grain crops. (0800 GMT)

Latvia is to sow about 600,000 hectares to grains this spring. (1500 GMT)

19 April

Spring field work is under way in Tambovskaya Oblast. The oblast's growers are planning to sell the state 1,210,000 tons of grain this year. (0204 GMT)

Field work is under way in Altayskiy Kray. This year over 3 million hectares will be sown to spring wheat. (0600 GMT)

A PRAVDA correspondent reports from Uzbekistan that the spring is now at its height, and cotton is sown on an area of more than 1,870,000 hectares. (2200 GMT)

BREZHNEV FAVORS COOPERATION IN SPACE, GIVES AWARDS

LD171716 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 17 Apr 81

[Speech by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, on 17 April in the Kremlin at a ceremony honoring Cosmonauts Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Jugderdemidiyn Gurragcha--recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades! Today we are marking a joyful and significant event. Two citizens of socialist countries, Comrades Dzhanibekov and Gurragcha, have returned from a journey into space. They carried out marvelous work and gave a wonderful present to socialist Mongolia, our old and loyal friend.

The homeland of the first Mongolian cosmonaut is now preparing for the 18th Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Congress and will then mark the 60th anniversary of the glorious people's revolution. Your present, it can be said, is very timely.

On this April day one's memory returns to that unforgettable day, 12 April 1961, when the whole world heard the famous let's go of Yuriy Gagarin. Vast progress has been made by space researchers in the intervening years. Equipment has been improved, tasks have become more complicated, the time spent in space has lengthened. But one thing has always remained the same: Work in space is in the capability of only courageous people who possess deep knowledge and are able to act quickly and unerringly in very complicated situations. To put it very briefly, this is within the capability only of people of Gagarin's tempering.

It so happened that for a number of years before the first space launch I was associated with the work of Soviet rocket specialists. I was fortunate enough to closely know Comrades Kelhysh, Korolev, Yangel and many other outstanding scientists and engineers who laid the path to the stars for mankind. Of course, we all dreamed of and tried to guess what would be happening in 20 years' time. Most often dreams outrun reality, but in space it has happened otherwise, reality has outrun the dream.

The recent flight was the eighth by an international socialist crew, and Comrade Gurragcha has opened the count of the second hundred of space explorers. At this moment Comrades Kovalenok and Savinykh are continuing their space watch. Quite recently they received our guests on board the Salyut-6 station. Thanks to the creators of the space equipment, thanks to the cosmonauts, we know more about both space and the earth. We also know more about the possibilities of man.

I would like to stress that the Soviet Union has been and remains a convinced supporter of the development of businesslike international cooperation in space. May the boundless ocean of space be pure and free from all types of weapons. We favor joint efforts with the great and humane aim of precluding the militarization of space.

Comrades! For the successful carrying out of the space flight on the orbital research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz and for the courage and heroism displayed during this mission, Hero of the Soviet Union Vladimir Aleksandrovich Dzhanibekov is awarded the Order of Lenin and the Second Gold Star Medal, and Comrade Gurragcha, research cosmonaut, citizen of the Mongolian People's Republic, is awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union with the award of the Order of Lenin and the Gold Star Medal. [applause]